

NEW WELLBEING ASSESSMENTS

Birmingham LGBT is pleased to offer a new service to the LGBT community. The Wellbeing Assessments are FREE and confidential, and could help you make positive changes in your life.

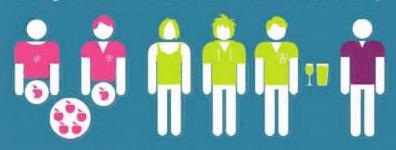
To book your assessment call today 0121 643 0821 or email enquiry@blgbt.org







Raising awareness of health issues in the LGBT community



www.blgbt.org/centre







www.blgbt.org www.facebook.com/groups/BirminghamLGBT 38/40 Holloway Circus, Birmingham. B1 1EQ

A Registered Charity 1141568 Company Number 07203554

This month...

06



Local Life Story: Warren McLeod

17



Summer of Pride: Your guide to Pride events

12



Grindr: The story behind the popular gay app

30



Festival Fashion: What to wear this summer

14



The British Commonwealth: Gay facts & figures

PRIVATE STRUCTURE

WINI WINI WINI

16



Policing with Pride in Berlin



What's On? Film, theatre, comedy & music

REGULARS:

Local Life Story 6

News 8

Style: Gadgets 29

Style: Fashion 30

Style: Home 32

What's On 54

Books, DVDs & Music 56

LGBT Community 60

Escort Directory 62

Gay Classified 63

Sauna Directory 64

The Last Word 66



YOUR 20-PAGE GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON AT YOUR GAY VENUES

Stay connected...

TO GET THE LATEST GAY NEWS, VISIT:

www.midlandszone.co.uk



56

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER:

@midlandszone

Tweet, tweet!



The Midlands news website for the LGBT community



The Editor's Note Ryan Humphreys @ryanhumphreys

I can't believe it's August already! No sooner has summer arrived than it's time to start thinking ahead to the rest of the year. I hope that, like the Midlands Zone team, you've been able to head out into the sunshine over the past month? We've certainly enjoyed attending all manner of outdoor LGBT events during these last few weeks!

Should we be proud of the Commonwealth?



At the time of writing, the Commonwealth games have just got under way. There's no doubt that one of my favourite activities during the games (as with the Olympics) is studying the fine form of the men in lycra, swimming-trunks and running gear. Tom Daley, I'm talking about you!

However, as fun as that 'activity' is, the Commonwealth Games has also brought to people's attention just how unfriendly, intolerant and, to be fair, pretty horrid much of the Commonwealth is.

You may be shocked to hear that out of the 53 countries in the Commonwealth, over 40 of them impose strict anti-gay laws. But the real shocker is the severity of some of those laws -homosexual acts in some countries can lead to life imprisonment or maybe even the death penalty.

So should the United Kingdom do something about it? Should this oppression be highlighted at the Commonwealth Games? As part of a Commonwealth, should one law apply to all?

Turn to pages 14 and 15 and check out our feature. You may decide there are parts of the Commonwealth you really don't wish to visit on holiday with your same-sex partner. That said, there are also, of course, some Commonwealth countries where you'll be more than welcome.

Are sex apps to blame for STI increases?

It was reported back in June that researchers in California had discovered a link between dating apps, such as Grindt, Scruff and Jack'd, and an increase in sexually transmitted infections.

Following a survey of 7,184 people at a Los Angeles sexual health clinic, the researchers discovered that 23% of men were more likely to contract gonorrhoea and 35% more likely to



contract chlamydia when using dating apps or hooking up with other guys in clubs.

So we sat down to chat with Joel Simkhai, the founder and CEO of top gay men's dating app Grindr.

He told us that he was committed to promoting safer sex to the app's users, as well as promoting equality throughout the world.

Check out our interview with Joel on pages 12 and 13 to find out what they're doing to help keep Grindr's users safe.

We still have Pride in the Midlands!



It's still summer, and that means one thing there are still some Pride festivals to enjoy around the Midlands!

This month's attractions include the Shrewsbury Pink Picnic - a great event where you're sure to meet some friendly people in picturesque surroundings. The Gay Family Pride event, meanwhile, will be attracting all manner of LGBT families.

Stoke-On-Trent Pride is also taking place this month, with Amelia Lily and Kitty Brucknell headlining.

And don't forget the third annual Walsall Pride towards the end of August, where special guest Jo O'Meara from S Club will be taking to the stage. Wrapping up the month's Pride events is Leicester Pride, promising to be bigger and better than ever before!

We've got a whole twelve-page feature about 'all things Pride' from page 17 onwards, so check it out and plan the rest of your summer.

Ryanx

What's Hot!

Olly Murs' Bum



Cheeky chappy and pop star Olly Murs had us all horn bothered last month when it was announced he was Rear Of The Year 2014!

The Troublemaker could certainly get into a bit of trouble with us! Nudge, nudge, wink wink!

John Barrowman's Commonwealth kiss



As Ryan wrote in his column (left), at the time of going to print, the Commonwealth Games are taking place in Glasgow. As a bit of a 'two fingers up' to those anti-gay countries in the Commonwealth, actor and singer John Barrowman kissed another fella during the opening ceremony. Way t'go, John!

What's Not!

Russia's Intervision



Russia has revealed its answer to the Eurovision Song Contest. The country's Intervision Contest is for the, er, less liberal-minded and means that Russian citizens won't have to explain to their kids why there's a man with a beard in a dress singing on TV.





Warren McLeod

Manager Club Chic, Birmingham

> Born: Birmingham Star sign: Pisces Age: 32

Each month we take a look at someone from the Midlands LGBT community. This month, our focus turns on Warren McLeod, the manager of Birmingham's Club Chic. It's always tough trying to keep it real and original, plus trying to keep it a fun environment to work and party in.

What are the highlights of

The whole operation is a challenge. Ensuring the venue is well managed and operates smoothly.

What are the highlights of working in the nightclub industry?

For me, it's like being on a night out, but getting paid for it. I'm lucky, as I have a lot of friends that frequent Club Chic week in, week out. So for me it's a way of catching up. It's also a great way of meeting new and different people, as well as listening to the best tunes around.

What do you think sets Club Chic apart from the rest?

Club Chic is a small and unique venue with a good reputation and a regular following each and every week. And, of course, its originality.

What's coming up for Club Chic?

Later this month (August Bank Holiday), we're staging our next Dance Arena event. It's going to be right in the heart of Birmingham's gay scene, on the car park next to The Loft Lounge. We're also celebrating our 10th birthday in November, which is set to be a massive night out!

Where do you want to see Club Chic in five years' time?

I would love to see it expand, with other venues in different cities. Having ones in London and Manchester would be amazing.

Where do you want to see yourself in five years' time?

My long-term plan is to have my own venue or two - whether it's a nightclub, bar or both.

Gay Scene

How long have you been frequenting the Midlands gay scene and what's your earliest memory?

I've been going out on the scene since the age of 18, so about 14 years. My earliest memory was going to Kudos. They had a theme night on. I found it a bit daunting at first, but once I'd had a drink I was fine.

Who's your favourite cabaret act on the gay scene?

Cabaret isn't really my thing, but Mrs Mills always knows how to put a smile on my face!

About Warren

Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Birmingham; I'm Brummie through and through.

Single or attached?

I'm attached! My other half is called Liam and we've been together for nearly three years.

What makes you happy?

It makes me happy when anything I put effort into is a really big success. I love the feeling of knowing 'I've done that'.

What makes you sad?

It makes me sad knowing that I have no sweets in my junk food cupboard!

What makes you angry?

Homophobic people make me really angry! At the end of the day, we're all human and we all have a heart, regardless of our sexual preference.

If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be?

I'd change my frowning! I'm always frowning. Half the time, I don't even know I'm doing it. All that frowning means I now have lines that need filling!

What's been the most embarrassing thing you've done in your life?

I was at a friend's wedding and I was trying to entertain the kids whilst drunk. I fell flat on my face and ended up with a big graze on my nose.

Now that same-sex marriage

has been legalised, would you consider getting married?

As I mentioned above, I've been engaged for a while now, so we'll obviously be getting married. We just need to set a date!

Coming Out

When did you first know you were gay?

I first knew I was gay when I was at secondary school, at the age of 14.

When did you come out?

I came out when I was 18 to a family friend. I was a bit scared of telling my mum and sisters, as I was unsure how they'd react to it. But when I did tell them, they were all fine about it. My mum said she already knew, which probably made the whole situation easier.

What was school like for you as a gay teenager?

School was a little difficult as a gay teenager. I didn't really think about it or try and make it obvious. I just tried to keep a lid on it, to save myself from the embarrassment or abuse that would come with people knowing.

Who was the first person you told, and what was their reaction?

I told a friend of my dad's wife, and her reply was "So when are we going to the gay bars, then?". I think that put me at ease, because she was alright about it. I think she was just happy to have a gay boy friend!

What would you say to a youngster trying to come to

terms with their own sexuality?

I would tell them they should be happy with who they are. It may be difficult to begin with, but it gets better. Life is never easy, we all face obstacles, and this is a small one. But as long as they remain strong, they'll come to terms with everything. I also think talking to someone they're close to could help, as they can give support - it's never good keeping it all to yourself. Chatting and meeting others in the same boat could also help.

Have you ever had any experi ences with the opposite sex?

I had a brief relationship with a girl in secondary school, but that was only because I fancied her older brother. It gave me more chances to perv on him!

Your Career

When you were younger, what did you want to be?

When I was younger, I wanted to be an accountant, But then I started working in catering, so it all changed and I wanted to be a chef

What was your first job after leaving school?

My first job was as a catering assistant in a local pub.

When did you start working at Club Chic in Birmingham?

I started working at Club Chic just after it was taken over from Kudos. So, on and off, it must be about twelve years!

What challenges do you face working at Club Chic?

Who's your favourite person on the gay scene?

I don't really have a particular favourite person, as there are far too many to choose from. Most people I know on the scene I'm friends with and get along with, so I'd say they're all my favourites, It's a very safe answer!

What do you most enjoy about the gay scene?

I love the fact that there's something for everyone. All the venues offer something for different age ranges and people's preferences. It's very diverse.

What have you noticed about the way the gay scene has changed over the years?

The scene has become more accepting, It's a very diverse place to come, and it's great that everyone is able to enjoy it.

How would you change the Midlands' gay acene?

There isn't much to change on the scene. I would just like more venues to work together to offer the ultimate night out.

Time Out

Where do you like to go on a night out?

I occasionally go out in Birmingham's gay village and around the city centre. I really enjoy Moseley and Harborne.

What do you do to relax?

I just like to chill out with a few drinks and good company.

What do you enjoy on telly?

Hove the soaps and Mrs Brown's Boys!

What was the last album or track you bought?

The last album I bought was Clean Bandit's New Eyes.

Which one website do you spend the most time on?

Like most others, Facebook.

Which type of holiday do you prefer?

One with as much sun and as high a temperature as possible! I love being in the sun; just laying on a lounger with a cold beer in hand.



Quickfire

Who's your favourite actor?
Julia Roberts.

What's your favourite book? I don't read any.

Haif-empty or haif-full? Half-full. What's your favourite food? Italian.

And how about your favourite drink?

Anything with a high alcohol content. Oh, and coffee,

Madonna or Lady Gaga?

Lady Gaga.

Gaydar or Grindr? Neither,

If you could take a selfie with one person, alive or dead, who would it be?

Whitney Houston.

Editor-In-Chief Martin Monahan martin.monahan@midlandszone.co.uk 01743 281777

Managing Director: Paul Ofiver paul-oliver@midlandszone.co.uk Dt743.281711

Editor

Ryan Humphreys ryan@midlandszons.cs.uk 01743 281722

Sales & Marketing; Chris Horton chris horton@midlandszone.co.uk 01743 281704

Admin/Subscriptions: Adrian Parker edrian parker@midlandszone.co.uk 01743 281714

Graphic Designers Lisa Wassell Chris Atherton Alex Heath Adrian Parker

Accounts Administrator
Julia Perry
julia@21sted.com
01744 281717

Website Development

Contributors: Gudrun Limbrick Steve Ball Graham Bostock

Head Office 13-14 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropsture, SY2-6AE

Tel: 01743 281777 Fex: 01743 281744 info@midlandszone.co.uk

What's On MAGAZINE GROUP

THE UK'S LARGEST REGIONAL

All works appearing in this publication are copyright. It is to be assumed that the copyright for material rests with the magazine unless otherwise stated. No part of this publication may be reproduced, or stored in an electronic system, transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, rescharical, photocopied, recording or otherwise, without the price knowledge and consent of the publishers.



BUSINESS Sadness in the city: Gay men's boutique Prowler to shut its doors later this month



After much speculation, it's been confirmed by store bosses that Birmingham's once-popular gay men's boutique Prowler is set to shut its doors for the last time later this month.

The store, situated on Stephenson Street, will close on Saturday 16 August.

Prowler downsized and relaunched itself in September last year after a tough trading year in 2012/13. Talking exclusively to Midlands Zone, a spokesperson for the store said that its closure was purely down to economics.

"Although we'd hoped that the relaunch last year

would drive business back to a healthy level, high rent and continuing low footfall have created an untenable situation," said Scott Davidson. "Needless to say, we're extremely sad to close the doors once and for all, but we're keen to thank all of our customers from over the years, as well as everyone else who's supported us."

Prowler will continue to operate at two other locations in the United Kingdom, in Brighton and Soho.

Midlands customers will also be able to shop online at www.prowler.co.uk.

CHARITY LGBT Network reveals new partnership

LGBT Network Wolverhampton has announced a new partnership with Wolverhampton Homes, the largest social housing provider in Wolverhampton.

Wolverhampton Homes is the second largest employer in the city, and is out and proud in its support of local LGBT people.

The Wolverhampton Homes LGBT staff and allies group Proud To Be Me works closely with LGBT Wolverhampton, attending its drop-in sessions to support clients with housing issues. It also arranges a host of activities during LGBT History Month, including a 'dress in a colour of the rainbow' day to raise funds for LGBT Wolverhampton. The organisation runs campaigns to train and educate staff about LGBT issues, attends the monthly LGBT quiz and is committed to the Stonewall Workplace Index.

Lesley Roberts, CEO, presented LGBT Network Wolverhampton's Martha Bishop with a cheque for £2,000 towards Wolves Pride.

Martha said: "We're thrilled Wolverhampton Homes are leading the way in championing LGBT rights in Wolverhampton. Their support sends out a clear message to local people and endorses our ongoing campaign to end discrimination based on sexuality and gender identity. Our third Pride, on 27 September, promises to be our biggest and best yet, and would not be possible without the generous sponsorship of local organisations."

FILM Organisers announce Rainbow Film Festival line-up

Shropshire's Rainbow Film Festival returns this October with a wall-to-wall weekend of feature films, fascinating documentaries, Q&As and short-film screenings.

Ings.
The festival features movies from around the world, six UK and three world premieres, and a Q&A with Bette Bourne, who made history in the early days of gay liberation.

Bette's Q&A accompanies the screening of her film, Bette Bourne: it Goes With The Shoes, which tells the story of how she 'took on the establishment with high heels and lipstick'.

Bette, who lived in a gay drag commune, formed a radical drag cabaret act, Bloolips. The film is a real-life Priscilla Queen Of The Desert adventure.

For the second year running, the festival team has collaborated with SpringOut, who've chosen the lesbian-interest



films and organised a Q&A with Jane Traies, researcher for the Women Like That project.

The Q&A will follow the screening of Some Ground To Stand On, a compelling documentary on the life of Blue Lundun, a working-class lesbian activist whose odyssey of personal transformation parallels lesbian lives over the past 40 years.

PRIDE Nottinghamshire Pride: Thousands march through city in celebration of gay life

Nottinghamshire Pride saw the city completely taken over for a day, with colour splashed around every corner of the Lace Market and a hum of excitement in the air.

The Nottingham Post reports: Thousands marched through the city, guided by a Nottinghamshire Fire & Rescue Service engine, chanting "two, four, six, eight, we want to live In a world without hate" as they went.

Passers-by and onlookers smiled and were dragged into the parade, which lasted until 12pm, when a host of live music and activities kicked off.

One of the thousands who flocked to join in the parade was Methodist minister Andrew Orton, who lives in Masfield and is currently working at a church in the city centre.

"I'm a member of the gay community and also a member of the Christian community, and I'm here to celebrate that," he said. "We're all different as people. This is a really powerful thing and it affirms who we are.

The 47-year-old, who was wearing his dog collar and rainbow waistcoat, added: "The reason for dressing as I do is to show that it's okay to be a gay and a Christian. Hopefully, me being here helps someone else be able to be who they are. It's difficult, but the church is moving forwards:



The parade featured people of all shapes, sizes and ages, and with an incredibly varied and colourful style of dress. But among the people who'd travelled from far and wide were representatives from local companies and organisations.

MUSIC Homophobic Ugandan musician set for Birmingham show

A Ugandan musician, who sings about hating "batty" men, is due to perform in Birmingham this month.

PinkNews.co.uk reports: 'LGBT campaigners say Bobi Wine (real name Robert Ssentamu Kyagulanyi) promotes and instigates homophobia through his lyrics.

The 32-year-old from Kampala, who also runs a boxing club, has described himself as a "ghetto president" and believes he is a "role model" for Uganda's underprivileged youth.

Wine has his own online "reality" show, featuring extracts of his youth community work. But a YouTube video also shows his fondness for homophobic language. He is seen rapping about his disgust for the "batty" and "Chi Chi man", Jamaican slurs used to describe gay men

'Referencing same-sex sexual activity, Wine asks: "Why do you do this abomination", adding that "if you are a girl, you must stay a girl". The triends around him sing: "If you are a man who dresses like a woman, you can never, never be my friend".

'Defending his opposition to gay people and expressing support for Uganda's anti-gay laws, Wine says: "We must defend our culture and family".

The artist complains: "I cannot walk to the church with my three wives and get wedded but I can see two men going into a church to get wedded."

"He previously wrote on Facebook: "So Obama comes to Africa with his wife and kids to promote homosexuality?... Oh what a shame. Obama you can be a fagot and a hypocrite, but pliz keep off our children, our morality and our culture."

'As part of the Summer Bash tour, Wine is due to perform in Birmingham at the La Reference venue, 160 Hockley Hill, on 9 August.'

HEALTH Gay Birmingham man received NHS shock therapy in the 1970s to 'cure' his homosexuality

A gay man from Birmingham who was given electric shocks on the NHS in the 1970s to 'cure' him of homosexuality has expressed his "deep regret" about the experience.

BBC News reports; "John,"

from Birmingham, said the Electric Shock Avoidance Therapy gave him "false hope" that he could live as a married heterosexual man.

The 69-year-old said: "I'm going to pass from this life without ever having a full relationship with a human being."
'Care Minister Norman Lamb said homosexuality was "not an illness" and should never be treated as such, which is why he strongly opposed such treatment and would never fund it with public money.'

NATIONAL NEWS

POLITICS Calls for convictions for homosexuality to be disregarded fall on deaf ears

The government has rejected calls for convictions for homosexual acts to be posthumously disregarded. PinkNews.co.uk reports: 'Liberal Democrat peer Lord Sharkey had tabled an amendment, but it was withdrawn last night following protests by the government.

Justice Minister Lord Faulks said such an amendment would introduce a "disproportionate burden" on the police and Home Office.

HEALTH LGBTs are growing older in fear of isolation, new research reveals

New research published by Stonewall and the Co-operative Funeralcare starkly reveals that lesblan, gay and bisexual people grow older fearing discrimination and isolation.

The YouGov polling shows that nearly half (48 per cent) of lesbian, gay and bisexual people fear discrimination when dealing with bereavement, while more than half (55 per cent) of those over the age of 45 have no financial provision for their funeral. Shockingly, one in 10 say they have experienced discrimination at a funeral or when arranging one.'

better education about HIV and AIDS, says charity

A charity is calling for teenagers to be given clearer education on how they can catch HIV and AIDS, reports BBC News.

According to the website: 'A third of 12 to 17-year-olds wrongly think they can't catch HIV through unprotected sex. 'A panel of nearly 1,000 were surveyed by the charity the MAC AIDS Fund between May and June. Figures from the survey also suggest nearly 90% of teenagers believe they are not at risk of contracting HIV or AIDS in their lifetime. When asked if they had ever spoken about the topic, 42% of the panel said they hadn't.'

GET ALL THE LATEST NEWS AS IT HAPPENS AT MIDLANDSZONE.CO.UK

THE VIRAL ROUND-UP

Here's what we've been looking at online...

We all do it - spend hours on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. Often, we're distracted from what we should be doing by cat videos and funny pranks - or by something feelgood that's been shared so much on the net it's officially classed as 'viral'. Well, here are some of Midlands Zone's favourites from the past month!

WATCH THIS! The best videos on the net...



Tom Daley goes to Wimbledon. The trouble is, he doesn't quite know what to wear. So what does he do? He makes a video, of course. There's something strangely sexy about this one, so make sure you head over to YouTube and check it out; youtu,be/Mofb0KHMT0g



It's a moment that we all have to go through - coming out to our parents. It's possibly one of the most difficult experiences of our lives. Here, in an emotional video, gay YouTube superstar Davey Wavey talks to his mum about when he came out; youtu,be/MQZ7c-6R4ic

Guess who's back? Yep, it's those Warwick Rowers!



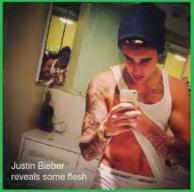
It's going to get hotter than ever!

The Warwick Rowers are probably the hottest thing ever to come out of Warwick University - and now they're back, preparing their charity calendar for 2015! We interviewed the boys last year, since which time they've become famous across the world, with photos of their naked bodies gracing the walls of bedrooms everywhere.

Rumour has it the team behind the Rowers' calendar has gone all-out this year to make it even bigger, better and sexier than before. They're tooking at crowdfunding as a way to raise money for production costs, so if you want to help them out - or just look at the new video they've released - head over to: http://bit.ly/1rF60MP

SNAP HAPPY! Our favourites from Instagram...









Come to the GAYLIFE HEALTH ZONE to access information about sexual health, access FREE Condoms and Lube Sachets and HIV Testing.

Have a safe Stoke-On-Trent Pride 2014.

Love Gaylife x









Grindr, the much-used gay dating app launched in 2009, was an overnight success, attracting millions of gay men looking for love - or perhaps just a bit of fun. Midlands Zone talks to its founder and CEO, Joel Simkhal, about the history of the hugely popular app, its future, and what it's doing to help the global LGBT community...

What were you doing before you developed the idea of the app?

I had an online marketing business. I was doing that for a bunch of years, then the idea of Grindr came along

What was the main inspiration behind Grindr? I was just looking for an easier way to meet other men. I dibeen using a lot of online services, as well as offine, and they weren't very efficient. I wanted an easier way, and the iPhone brought it. When Steve Jobs announced the second generation (Phone and the ability to create applications. I immediately tried to find a designer and developer to make the idea

And the name Grinds itself?

We were looking for something that was edgy, something that was masculine and something that wasn't gay' per se. We looked at a word that meant 'mixing'. We looked at Mixer and Biender and things like that. Grindr was one of the options, like a coffee grinder. We liked it because it was a Ittle harsher and more masculine than blending. Two guys can grind rub up against each other so there was that connotation as well

How many people currently use Grindr across the world? How about in the United Kingdom alone?

We have over five million monthly users across the world, 1,500,000 of those use it every day around the world. In the United Kingdom alone. which is the second largest country for us, there are 660 000 monthly users, with London being our number one city in the world, ahead of New York and Paris. We love London!

Grindr turned five earlier this year. Did you ever imagine there would be such a large demand for it?

I was hopeful! I figured it'd be a very useful service for a lot of guys. I never imagined it would get this big or international. I never dreamed it would reach 192 countries that's almost every country in the world. It's amazing how global it is, and how much a part of gay culture, as well as straight and pop culture, it is, it's mentioned on TV all the time. Grindr being mentioned on Top Gear by Stephen Fry was a big surprise for us, and we basically became a household name in the UK overnight and our downloads skyrocketed, Top Gear is a popular show around the world also, so it really helped us out there

Do you use Grindr on a day-to-day basis

Luse it all the time. Luse it almost hourly Tuse it a lot and successfully too. When I go travelling, it's my number one tool. It's quite heipful

Have you found love on Grindr yourself?

Yes, I have I met a lot of great guys who I dated some I just stayed friends with. It's been a great thing for me

When people meet you in real life, do you tell them you're the guy that invented Grindr? When people ask me what I do, I'm very generic about it. I don't tend to mention that I started Grindr I don't hide it if someone asks, but I tend to find that it dominates the conversation if someone does ask. So yean. I try to avoid it.

Grindr was one of the first of its kind. There have been many other appa that have tried to emulate your success. What do you think keeps Grinds on top?

We re the largest, so we have the most guys online at any one time. When you're looking to meet someone, the number of guys online, engaged and active is important. With Grindr, they re online right now! That's why we're the most effective!

In the grand scheme of things, what do you think Grindr's biggest success is?

think we've made it a lot easier to meet other men. It is in your hands all of the time: you no longer have to commit yourself to using a computer. It's about making it a lot easier and quicker to meet a guy - that's something we're very proud of.

What's important is for everyone to know their status, and stay safe They re the messages that we try to convey

Do you hear many success stories from people who've used Grindr to meet other men?

We hear stones from our users at the time. We get different guys teiling us how they ve met boyfnends, husbands, friends, got a new job, run into old high school friends everything. One of the best parts of my job is hearing success stones, it makes us smile! That's what makes it all worthwhile

You also develop Blendr, which is a dating app for 'everyone else'. Does that have the same popularity as its big brother?

Biendr is a great way to meet if you re straight or a respian, it's a great service. As a company, we spend most of our time focusing on Grindri that's our main priority. We love the gay market and we ike to focus on that.

Do you think Grindr is an important tool for men to meet other men in countries where they don't have the same freedom or equality as we do in the US and the UK?

Absolutely It's rilegal to be gay in over 70 countries. A lot of these places don't have any form of gay community bars or infrastructure so for a lot of these foiks, Grindr is their gay world That's how they can talk to and meet other guys. We re very much aware of this and proud of this we don't want them to be alone. The whole team is pleased we're heipful in those countries

Grindr was banned in Turkey last year. How do you feel about this?

I remain very disturbed by it. In essence, Grindr is just a communication tool, right? It's very unfortunate when a government cuts off communication between people, including Twitter and YouTube. That's always very scary. Usually worse things happen after that. It was very discouraging.

You started Grindr4Equality in 2012, How do you think Grindr and its users can help in the fight for global LGBT equality?

For us, we have access to millions of users around the world. We now communicate with them and encourage them to make a phone call, donate or go to radies and sign petitions. We try to find small calls of action, ones which are easy and can be done quickly. Over many millions of users, it does make an impact and has been successful That's what Grindr4Equairty is all

It's been reported that apps such as Grindr have been responsible for the increase in sexually transmitted infections. How is Grindr helping to promote safe sex to its users? We work with a bunch of different organisations to get the word out on testing and safe sex. We work with Truvada, which is an interesting way to treat and help stop the spread of the HIV virus. We do what we can but we don't have a solution. What's very important is for everyone to know their STI status and to stay sate. They re the messages that we try to convey

What's the future hold for Grindr? What new features can we expect? Our readers are quite keen to see multiple profile photos, video, and even a desktop version of the app...

We don't really comment on future plans because we never know what's going to happen. We did recently update our Android app with a new user interface, which will be making its way over to IOS soon. In the bigger picture, my commitment is to help users meet each other as quickly as possible, and to meet the guy of their dreams in a fun way. We re constantly thinking of new ways to do that.

Where would you like to see Grindr in five

years' time?
Touching on what I've just said. I'd love it to be a tool that lets you meet someone even faster than it does today. We want to heap you find that guy, and we're confident we can do it

Finally, for a bit of fun, which celebrity would you like to have message you on Grindr? Forn Ford. He's sexy he's smart, he's relevant and artistic. Year. I wouldn't mind him popping up on Grindr to say hello!

Grindr is a free download from the IOS App Store and Google Play for Androld For more information, visit www.grindr.com

The British Commonwealth Not a lot to be

Come on, admit it. All that tiring hot weather at the end of July left you feeling so exhausted you had little choice but to pour yourself something long and cool, take a seat, and revel in all that sizzling male flesh on show at the Commonwealth Games

Pm-up boy Tom Daley was certainly in good company when it came to fit hunky, muscular guys baring a. (weil, nearly all) for our delight and de ectation

How shocking to think, then, that in savouring Glasgow 2014 s parade of flesh as the Games kicked off, we were also buying in to a sport ing event that highlighted the truly appalling reality of gay rights across the world or rather the ack of them.

Yes, the statistic may be gobsmacking but it s nonethe ess true in no fewer than 42 of the

Commonwealth's 53 countries it's still legal to be gay. That's a stagger ing 80% of the Commonwealth

As the Games approached veteran gay and human rights activist Peter Tatchel campaigned hard to get Prime Minister David Cameron and Scot tish First Minister Alex Salmond to make a political stand for LGBT rights. Eighty per cent of Commonwealth countries discriminate against LGBTI

> people," says Mr Tatchel "The intensity of homophobia in these countries is so great that it's very un kely they would select an LGBTI ath ete to compete in Glasgow I can't magine homophobic states like Jganda, Brunei or Nigeria seecting an LGBTI athlete. They're more kely to iall them than send them to Glasgow." Check out the below ist to find out how LGBT people are treated in each of the 42 anti-gay Commonwealth countries. If, for example, you re convicted of illega, homosexual activity in Singapore, you could theoretically get two years in

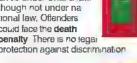
prison, step out of line more than once in Jganda, and you could be looking at the death penalty



DEATH PENALTY

MALDIVES

Same-sex relationships are illegal in the Maldives under Shar a law. though not under national law, Offenders could face the death penalty There is no legal protection against discrimination



UGANDA

Both male and female homosexual activity is i ega. A gay man convicted of same-sex crimes faces up to life Imprisonment repeat offenders can face the death penalty.



NIGERIA

Sex acts between men are illegal and carry a maximum penalty of 14 years in prison. Where Sharia law is in effect, persons convicted can face the death penalty.



CAMEROON

DOMINICA

IMPRISONMENT

Both female and male

same-sex sexual acts

are legal Any person

fence is liable to impris-

exceeding seven years

Homosexua ity is legal

and since April 2014,

can be punished with

death by stoning, for

lowing the introduction

of sharia law. The previ-

punishable by up to 10 years Jall.

ous raw had made it

onment for a term not

BRUNE

found guity of an of-

BOTSWANA

Same sex sexual acts are banned for both men and women, by section 347 of the pena. code. The penaity can be five years imprisonment, plus a fine of 20,000 to 200 000 francs

Male and female same

Convicted offenders can

face up to 10 years in

prison, and could be

admitted to a psych-

atric hospital for treat

ment should the court think fit

sex activity is il egal



IMPRISONMENT

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

llega, for both gay men and lesbian women Consenting adults can face up to 15 years in prison There is no ega protection for LGBT people,



BELIZE

Any person who has camal intercourse against the order of nature' with any person shall be lable to 10 years imprisonment Foreign homosexuals are prohib ted from visiting



Male same-sex acts are legal, any person 16 or over with his consent is guilty of a misdemeanout A misde meanour is punishable by imprisonment of not more than three years



GRENADA

Male-on-male homosex uality is illegal and punishable with 10 years Imprisonment. Ana. sex is recarded as an 'unnatural crime' and relates to male/female. equally.



JAMAICA

Sexual acts between men are pun shable with up to 10 years imprisonment. Sex between women is legal. Jamaica. has been described by some human rights groups as the most homophobic place on Earth



Sex between men is illegal and carries a maximum penalty of 14 vears imprisonment 21 years in certain 'aggravating circumstances'. Sex acts between women are not mentioned.



KIRIBATI

Homosexual acts are llegal Anal intercourse s outlawed, regardless of sex. Any person whocommits buggery with another person is guilty of a felony, and lable to imprisonment for 14 years.



MALAWI

Male and female samesex acts are illegal. Any male who, whether in public or private commits any act of gross indecency with another male is liable to Imprisonment for five years



MALAYSIA

Retains to colon a era ban on sodomy (as we. as oral sex) defined to include both hetero and homosexual acts, with possible punishment including fines and prison sentences of up to 20 years



MAURITIUS

The law does not mention homosexua ity being illegal or ega Sodomy is legal and banned by the aws of the country Gu ty per sons face imprisonment for up to five years.



NAMED (A

Sodomy is legal in Namibia, and is punishable with a prison term. Home Affairs Minister Teopolina Mushelenga claimed that lesbians and gay men were responsible for the HIV/AIDS pandemic.



NAURU

_GBT people living on the island face certain un que legal and social cha lenges Ma e-tomale homosexual acts remain illega, and can lead to imprisonment with hard labour for 14 years



PAKISTAN

Same sex sexual acts are illegal under the Angle Saxon law of unnatural offences Pun ishment can include a prison sentence of not less than two years to a maximum of ten years



IMPRISONMENT

PAPUA NEW CHUMEA

Male same-sex sexual activity is prohibited Those caught engaging n anal sex can get punshed with up to 14 years in prison



SAINT LUCIA

Legal for females, illegal for males. Same sex acts can be punished with fail for up to 10 years. The only country in the Amencas to oppose the UN declaration on sexual onentation and gender identity.



SAMOA

Same-sex sexual acts are illegai. Offenders can face imprisonment for a term not exceed ng seven years A person who commits sodomy is liab e to a term not exceed ng five years.



Imprisonment for up to 14 years. Same-sex sexual acts among fe ma es are legal.

SINGAPORE

Ma e same-sex sexual activity is llegal, though the law is generally not enforced Same-sex activity can incur a jall term of up to two years Female same sex sexual activity is legal,



THE SOLOMON SLANDS

LGBT rights are i mited with same-sex sexua activity being it egal. Engaging in analisex acts with another person is pun shable by up to 14 years imprisonment.



AINT KITT AND NEVES

Ma e-on-ma e sex acts are if ega. in St Kitts and Nevis 'The crime of buggery can result in up to 10 years imprisonment, with or without hard labour



SAINT VINCENT AND GRENADINES

Homosexuality is illegal Any person who, in public or private, commits an act of gross in decency is liable to Imprisonment for five years



Male same sex sexual activity is idegal in Tonga, with a maximum penalty of 10 years imprisonment, The of fender may also be whipped as a punishment



TRUMIDAD AND TOBAGO

Both male and female same-sex activity is life gal However the aws are not often enforced A conviction for buggery could lead to 25 years in prison.



TUVELU

Any male who permits another male to commit buggery with him is gulty of a felony and liable to imprisonment for 14 years. There are no LGBT recognitions or rights in Tuvalu



A PART OF STREET

Same-sex sexua activity is legal for both males and fema es. Persons convicted can face up to 14 years imprisonment Zambia has stated it will never recognise same sex mamage



LIFE IMPRISONMENT

THE REAL PROPERTY.

Up to life imprisonment for any same-sex activity LGB people face abuse and discrimination in society. Trans people can vote, but socia, st gma is a big issue



BARBADOS

Homosexual acts are legal, with a life sentence, but the law is rarely enforced. The law is currently in effect, but under review. LGBT peopie face legal risks not experienced by non-LGBT citizens



Any male who commits an act of gross indecency with another ma e s imprisoned for two years. Anyone who commits buggery is guitty of felony and liable to imprisonment for life



INDIA

LGBT people in India face the danger of being imprisoned up to a lifetime because of their sexual orientation. Mental, physical, emotional and economic viorence against LGBTs prevails



Maie same-sex sex⊾a. activity (in public or private) is illegal and cames a possible penalty of life imprisonment (with hard labour), although this law is seldom enforced. Female same-sex sexual activity is regal.



TAMEANIA

Sex acts between men are i legal and carry a maximum penaity of life Imprisonment in Zanzibar, lesbian offenders get up to five years imprisonment.



NOT AS BAD, BUT STILL

LESOTHO

Male same sex activity was legalised in Lesotho in 2012. Marnage is only permitted for opposite sex couples. Same sex couples are not permitted to adopt children



SRI LANKA

Considered to be illegal under a broad provision dealing with, 'gross indecency' - a remnant of colonialism No legislation exists to protect LGBT peop e from harassment or discrimination



SWAZILAND

Ma e-to-ma e sex acts are il egal, fema e-to-female legal, Same sex couples are not allowed to marry and are proh b ited from adopting children, unlike sing e, married or divorced persons



VANUATU

Same-sex sexual activrty has been legal since 2007, The country does not recognise same-sex unions in any form. There is no legal protection against discrimination based on sexual orientation.



I'S CK TO BE GA

It may be illegal to be gay in 42 out of 53 Commonwealth countries, but it's okay to be gay in the other 11.

Here in the UK, engaging in homosexual activity has been legal since as long ago as 1967.

Legal since 1994, Gays and lesbians allowed to serve in the armed forces since 1992.



Legal since 1991 (Age of consent not equal) No recognition of same-sex couples.



CANADA

Legal since 1969 (unequal age of consent for anal sex). Same sex marriage since 2005.



Legal since 1998 (Age of consent equal sed in 2002) No recognition of same-sex couples.



Legal since 2010 LGBT discrimination barried by the constitution. No recognition of relationships



Legal since 1973. Civil Unions since 2014. Can adopt children both as single or joint partners.



MOZAMBIQUE

Legal. Sexual orientation protected (employment only). No recognition of relationships.



Legal No

「おり使えずきをおいり

Legai since 1986. Same-sex marriage since 2013, Allows adoption for same-sex couples.



recognition of same-sex relationships. Unknown if gays and lesbians are allowed to adopt



TOUTH A FILE

UNITED SKING OF THE

2007 Same-sex marriage since 2006



Legal since 1998. Age of consent equalised in

Legal since 1967. Right to change legal gender since 2005. Same sex marriage since 2014.



POLICING WITH PRIDE IN BERLIN, GERMANY

Officers from Staffordshire Police have recently returned from a conference of the European Gay Police Association (EGPA), this year held in Berlin, Germany. The event brought together LGBT police officers from across Europe and focused on hate crime, discrimination and inequality in the police service, and an increase in violence towards LGBT people across the continent...

The four-day conference was opened in the city hall by Klaus Wowereit, the openity gay Mayor of Berlin, who wercomed officers to the city. In his opening address, the mayor underlined Germany's support for the LGBT community and taked about Berlin's vibrant gay scene

"The UK police has to be 10 years ahead of most European countries..."

During the conference, Petra Pau. Vice President of the German Parliament, spoke about the rise in violence towards LGBT people in Europe, and the correlation of violence with the change in the European political landscape. The current activities in Russia were of a particular concern, as was the risk that other Eastern countries may take a similarly aggressive stance towards the LGBT community.

Peter Rigby chair of Staffordshire LGBT Police Association, said "The experience of LGBT officers in the UK is now very much a positive one with laws and policies supporting the integration of staff. but this can tibe said about all European countries. Homophobia and transphobia is not only an everyday experience

for many people in the community, but also internally in the police with officers suffering discrimination, isolation and bullying on a daily back.

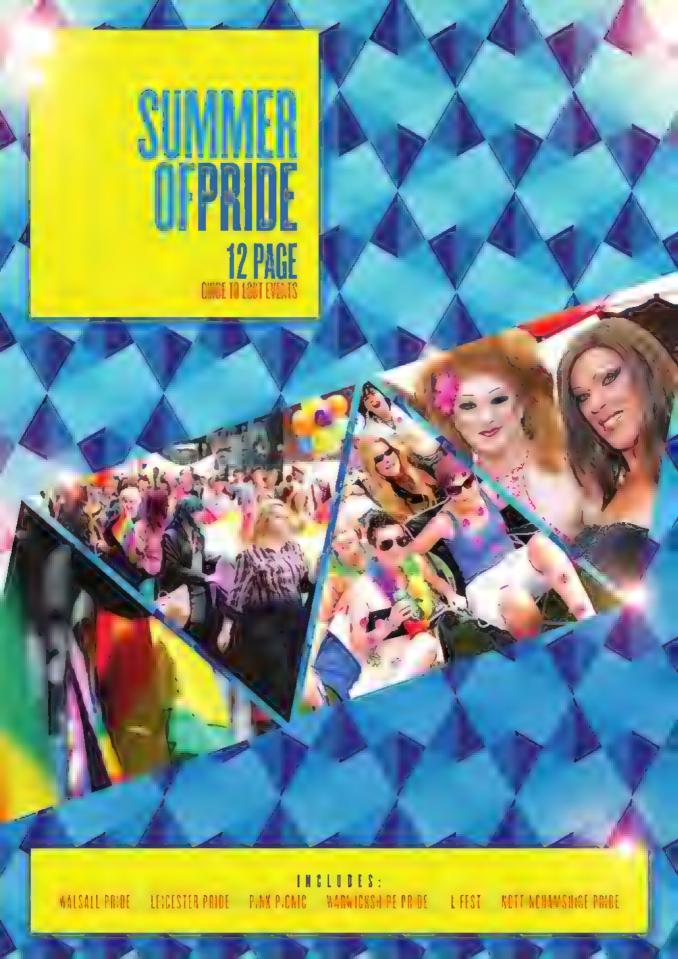
"The UK poince has to be 10 years ahead of most European countries and 25 years ahead of many countries from the East."

At the end of the conference, delegates united at the Berlin Pride event by marching in their uniforms in the parade. The participation of

police officers in the procession attracted national media attention. This was the first time the German police had ever actively participated in Pride, and many regiona, forces wouldn't a low their officers to become involved it was the officers from the LK who stole the show however, receiving rapturous appliause as they walked passed.

Countries that didn't permit their officers to wear their uniforms in the parade included France, Ireland, Austria and Spain







Walsall Pride set to be bigger and even better in 2014

Saturday 23 August Gallery Square, Walsall

www.walsallpride.org

Taking its place for a third year on the Midlands LGBT events calendar, Walsali Pride is set to be bigger and even better in 2014, boasting a main stage, dance arena and cabaret marquee.

The main event, featuring the main stage, once again takes piace in Gallery Square, right in the heart of Walsall. Acts confirmed to appear include Siclubia Jo O'Meara is singing some of the group is biggest and cheesiest hits and camp X Factor duo Diva Fever. There's also a string of tribute acts for some of the world's biggest artists, including Paioma Faith, Lady Gaga, Abba, Amy Winehouse, Cher and Shirley Bassey.

Meanwhile, the cabaret marquee is being hosted at the nearby Red Lion bar, and features some of the Midlands region's favourite drag artists and dance acts.

For fans of dance music, head to The Lion Bar & Club to enjoy big-name acts Keily Wilde, Angle Brown and Kitty Brucknell, and the disc-spinning talents of numerous DJs

Waisali Pride is free to attend, but donations are welcome. The main event takes place in Gailery Square, Waisali, on Saturday 23 August. For more information, visit www.waisalipride.org















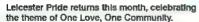




Leicester Pride celebrates One Love, One Community

Saturday 30 August Victoria Park, Leicester

www.leicesterpride.com



The one-day LGBT festival is kickstarted by a bright and colourful parade through the city's streets leaving from the Curve Theatre at 11am. Spectators will be able to watch it wind its way through the centre of Leicester, eventually coming to a stop at Victoria Park, where the main event begins.

Kieron Richardson and Pu Brennan from Hollyoaks make a welcome return to Leicester Pride this year: while entertainment comes from Britain's Got Talent stars Addict Dance Group. The Drag With No Name, Ryan Joseph, Tokyo Taboo and many more.

The DJ Tent is great for fans of dance music, and is this year headlined by former world number one female DJ Lisa Lashes.

Meanwhile. Sunday 24 August is the date for the Leicester Pride Ball. Featuring a three-course meal, entertainment and a raffle lift's going to be a great night.

Leicester Pride takes place on Saturday 30 August at Victoria Park in Leicester For more Information, visit www.leicesterpride.com















VICTORIA PARK 12PM-8PM

THEME .

ONE LOVE, ONE COMMUNITY

LGBT FREEDOM

LEICESTERPRIDE.COM

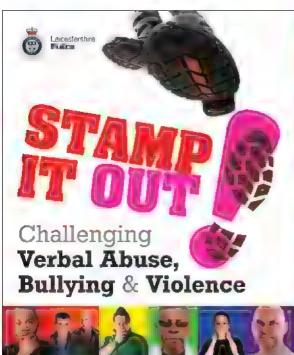












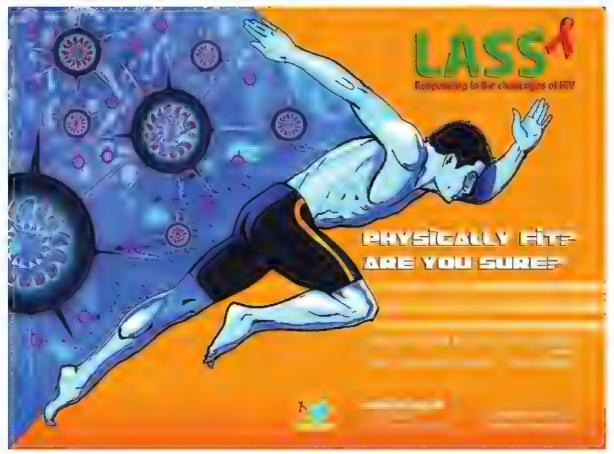
Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service is proud to be supporting Leicester Pride in 2014

We'll See You There!

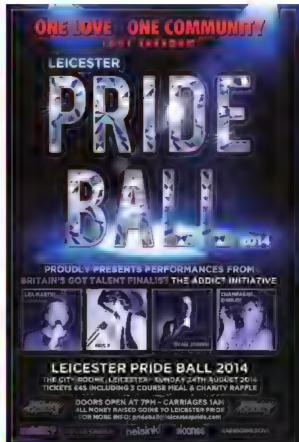


To find out how to report, visit www.stamp-it-out.co.uk

POSTAMPITOUT













Get your hampers ready for the Birmingham Pink Picnic

Sunday 7 September Kings Heath Park, Birmingham

www.blgbt.org

One of the highlights of the Midlands' LGBT summer calendar is the annual Birmingham Pink Picnic, which is organised by the charity Birmingham LGBT.

Co-ordinators of the event stress that everyone is welcome so whether you're single, married have kids or dogs, feel free to pop down and soak up the great atmosphere. Before you come, pack your hamper ful of treats sandwiches, quiche sausage rolls, pork pies and crisps!









Warwickshire Pride a success despite the wet weather...

Warwickshire's LGBT community came together at the end of June for a day of celebrating gay life - and despite the wet weather, the event was halled a huge success!

Entertainment took place on the bandstand at Learnington Spa's Pump Room Gardens. Head ining the festiva, was The Voice star Forn Barnwell and camp X Factor duo Diva Fever!

We re certainly looking forward to 2015's event.



















EVERYONE WELCOME



L Fest: The UK's biggest lesbian festival hailed a huge success

Back for its fourth year, the UK's biggest lesbian festival once again took place at Uttoxeter's Racecourse.

The event was spread over four days and featured entertainment in numerous forms, including music, cinema, work shops and games

Women from across the country turned up with their tents to enjoy a long weekend of camping, meeting new friends and having a fantastic time!





















Nottinghamshire Pride brings vibrant march to city's streets

Late last month saw Nottinghamshire Pride take place.

The event, scaled back compared to previous years, started with a march through Nottingham's streets, winding its way through to the Lace Market.

It was here were a whole host of entertainment, market stalls and information stalls were laid on for Pride-goers. The weather was good, making it a great day



























Pictures by Leanne Haywood Photography



UK LGBT EVENTS IN 2014

Annual LGBT Pride events in the UK mean two things. One, there's a celebration of all things LGBT happening; and two, summer is here! Yav!

Here's our extensive list of UK Pride events from Cornwall in the South to Sunderland in the North Whichever you choose to attend, we hope you have an awesome time!

August

Brighton Pride

Sat 2 August Preston Park brighton-pride.org

Shrewsbury Pink Picnic

Sat 2 August Quarry Park, Shrewsbury Ightshrewsbury.co.uk

Liverpool Pride

Sat 2 August Pler Head. Liverpool liverpoolpride.co.uk

Leeds Pride

Sun 3 August Lower Briggate, Leeds leedspride.com

Gay Family Pride

B - 11 August Barnswood Scout Camp Staffordshire gayfamilyweb.co.uk

Stake-on-Trent Pride

Sat 9 August Northwood Park stokeontrentpride.org.uk

Swindon and Wiltshire Pride

Sat 9 August fown Gardens, Quarry Rd. Swindon swindonwiftshirepride.co.uk

Wakefield Pride Sun 10 August

Warren Gale Wakefield wakefieldpride.org

Doncaster Pride

Sat 16 August Civic Square, Waterdale doncasterpride.co.uk

Cardiff Mardigras

Sat 16 August

Coopers field, Cardiff cardiffmardigras.co.uk

Weston-Super-Mare Pride

Sat 16 August

Manchester Pride Fri 22 - Mon 25 August

Manchester manchesterpride.com

Walsall Pride

Sat 23 August Gallery Square walsallpride.org

Cornwall Pride

Sat 23 August Truro Lemon Quay comwallpride.com

Reading Pride

Sat 30 August King Meadow Park, Reading readingpride.co.uk

Leicester Pride

Sat 30 August Victoria Park, Leicester leicesterpride.com

September:

Out Derby LGBT

Sat 13 September Friary Street, Derby derbyshirepride.co.uk

Sunderland Pride

Sun 28 September Civic Centre sunderlandpride.co.uk

Wolves Pride

Sat 27 September Venue: Wolverhampton (tbc) LGBTWolverhampton.orq.uk

October

Chester Pride

Sat 4 October Grosvenor Park chesterpride.co.uk

Rainbow Film Festival Fri 17 - Sun 19 October

Old Market Hall. Shrewsbury rainbowfilmlestivat.org.uk

November:

Shout Festival

Thurs 13 - 16 Sun November Various venues around Birmingham

Birmingham www.shoutfestival.co.uk

ZONE

A SAFE AND HAPPY PRIDE

DON'T MISS OUT IN AUGUST!

Here are three events taking place in August that you might have missed. Why not pop along and show your support!



Shrewsbury Pink Picnic

Saturday 2 August The Quarry, Shrewsbury www.qptshrewsbury.co.uk

Grab your sandwiches, drinks and blankets and join Shrewsbury's LGBT community for a relaxing afternoon of games and socialising in a stunning location.



Gay Family Pride

Friday 8 - Monday 11 August Barnswood Scout Camp, Nr. Leek www.fam yorideuk.co.uk

Spread across four days, Gay Family Pnde provides fun, games, activities and music for all the family, no matter what age you are!



Stoke-On-Trent Pride

Saturday 9 August Northwood Park, Hanley

www.stokeontrentoride.org.uk

A must attend event on the Midlands Pride calendar, this year's bash is going to be bigger and better than ever before. Head lining is X Factor's Amelia Liv.



APPSOLUTE MUST-HAVES

THE BEST APPS FOR YOUR SMARTPHONE & TABLET...









NETFLIX











01 XXL

A rea. Grindr competitor, XX. lets you meet local guys nearby, as well as anywhere in the world! Featuring unlimited profile views and push notifications, you could maybe meet your Mr Right, or per haps someone for fust a bit of fund.

FREE (OS & Android

02 Swarm by Foursquare

Share where you are and what you're doing with your mates Swarm is the fastest way to keep up and meet up with your friends

FREE IOS and Android

03 Paper

The most elegant Pad app that lets you create Capture your ideas as sketches diagrams or illustrations Lpgrade your experience with in-app purchases.

FREE JOS only

04 Netflix

Watch thousands of TV shows and movies on the go' with Netflix, the leading subscription streaming service

Subscription Required IOS and Android

05 Horizon

Horizon lets you record horizontal videos and photos, no matter which way you're holding your device. End vertica, videos today!

£1.49 iOS only

06 Spartacus International Gay Guide

Featuring over 24,000 listings in over 143 countries world wide. Spartacus is the world's biggest travel guide for gay men. A great design lets you

access the information you need easily Whilst away on your holidays.

FREE IOS and Android 07 Gay Cities

Gay Cities is a great way for you to find nearby gay bars clubs, restaurants and shops plus much, much morel

FREE JOS & Android

08 Alrbnb

Arbitib heips you find the world is most interesting places to stay, and is the simplest way for you to earn money by renting out your

spare room to travellers. There are over 600,000 -stings in more than 34,000 cities A must-have app for anyone who likes to get around!

FREE IOS and Android

09 TripAdvisor

With over 150 m.llion reviews Tr pAdvisor is the best way to find the best hotels, tastiest restaurants and most fun things to do, no matter where you are in the world! We hope they add an LGBT section soon

FREE IOS & Android

www.midlandszone.co.uk 29

Festival Fashion



It's festival season, and that means one thing... you need to look like the coolest kid at the gig!
So here's a great selection of items for you to wear whilst you're darting around those potentially muddy finite.

01 Dark Grey Check Shirt

Prove that the style classics can be far from boring with this dark grey large check print shirt. Featuring short rolled sieeves and button down front.

120.00

www.riverisiand.com

02 Rains Yellow Jacket

Rains have been defying Danish weather that's an average of 121 rain days a year since 2011 Stand out from the crowd with this bright yelow rain jacket, with hood and water-resistant fabric.

275.00

www.asos.com

03 Dark Red Floral T-shirt

Men can wear florais too, and this tonal, dark red flower print tee, featuring a crew neck and short sleeves, is a great way to prove t

20.00

www.riverisland.com

04 Blue Tropical Print Turn Up Shorts

Salute the summer in these blue, tropical print turn-up shorts. Featuring a zip fly with single button fastening.

£30.00

www.riverisland.com

05 Hunter Original Tall Weltles

Mud is a great British classic at festivals, so go prepared. Grab yourself a pair of stylish wellies, allowing you to jump around like you just don't care. Hunter well as feature an adjustable metar buckle detail as well as a thick cleated sole

€85.00

www asos com

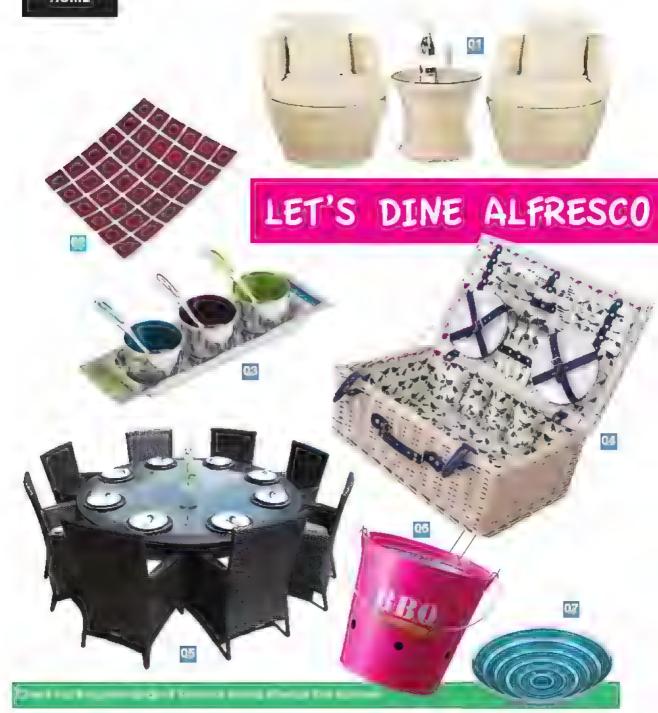
06 Yortolseshell Sunglasses

Be prepared for the sun by grabbing yourself these stylish tortoiseshell-patterned sunglasses

£4.99

www.hm.com





01 Ratlan Garden Egg Set -Natural

The tidy and perfectly formed Rattan Garden Egg Set is an excellent choice for those look ing to maximise their outdoor space, whether you have a courtyard, balcony or garden It even stacks for storage! 2398

www.wovenhill.co.uk

02 Large Square Plate Red This aluminium square piate makes a beautiful, contemporary fruit bowl and is simply stunning in colour and design. The plate works beautifully with the matching smaller square plate or with one of the company's red bowls, dishes or teallights £34

www.oh-so-pretty.co.uk

O3 Trio Mini Condiment Set What a perfect way to serve the sauces that complement your beastiful dinner! This stunning condiment set comes with three pretty little pots, each with its own matching spoon. Being made from aluminium, the set is light and easily passed around the

labie £26

www.oh-so-pretty co uk

04 Plonic Hamper

Pertect for an outdoor feast for four in blue and antique white this Kissing Robins hamper lends a modern twist to the traditional wicker picnic set inside the ceramic plates, wine gasses, cutlery, salt-and-pepper and bottle opener add the functional while the Kissing Robins or inted hapkins and lining add the fun. £94

www.annabeljames.co.uk

05 Oxford B Seat Outdoor Orcular Dining Set - Black

A must for outdoor entertaining, this all-weather Oxford 8 Seat Chrouar Dining Set includes eight fruly comfortable padded armichairs. The modern generously sized circular dining table has a solid woven top with clear toughened glass within an outer woven rim, with a removable centre cap for your parasol £1245 www.wovenfillt.co.uk

www.outthereinteriors.com

06 Barbecue Bucket in Neon

The barbecue bucket is ideal

for entertaining outside in the

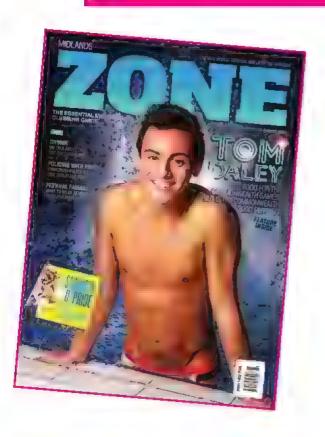
garden on those warm sum-

07 Round Bowl Aqua

mer days. £55

This gorgeous round bowl is a real showstopper! Absolutely perfect for those contemporary Interiors or out in the garden. This bowl is perfect for serving up that seasonal salad £36 www.oh-so-prefty.co.uk

GET YOUR FREE COPY DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR EVERY MONTH



...you just pay for the postage and packing!

Yes, we know you re wondering what the catch is

Well there isn't one!

We've apped up our subscription rates so that more of you can get the No.1 gay magazine in the Midlands delivered direct to your front door every month.

And at just £2 an issue to cover the postage and packing, there is never been a better time to get it de ivered!

it's easy - just call our Subscription Hotilne on 01743 281714

Simply pay the postage and packing cost of £2 per issue by debit or credit card!

WIN! Two pairs of Private Structure pants

Midlands Zone has teamed up with gay men's boutique Clone Zone - located right in the heart of Birmingham's gay village - to give away two pairs of Private Structure pants as competition prizes!

Private Structure is a brand new range of underwear that's just hit the shelves at the popular store. The company states its mission as being to craft trendy and contemporary fashion forwarded merchandise for individuals who lead an urban and chic lifestyle, enhancing one's confidence either being dressed or undressed. Sounds good to us!

To win one of the two pairs, visit www.midiandszone.co.uk and answer the following question

Which of the following is a type of underwear?

- A) The Footballer
- B) The Boxer
- C) The Swimmer

Competition closes on Tuesday 26 August 2014. Good luck!

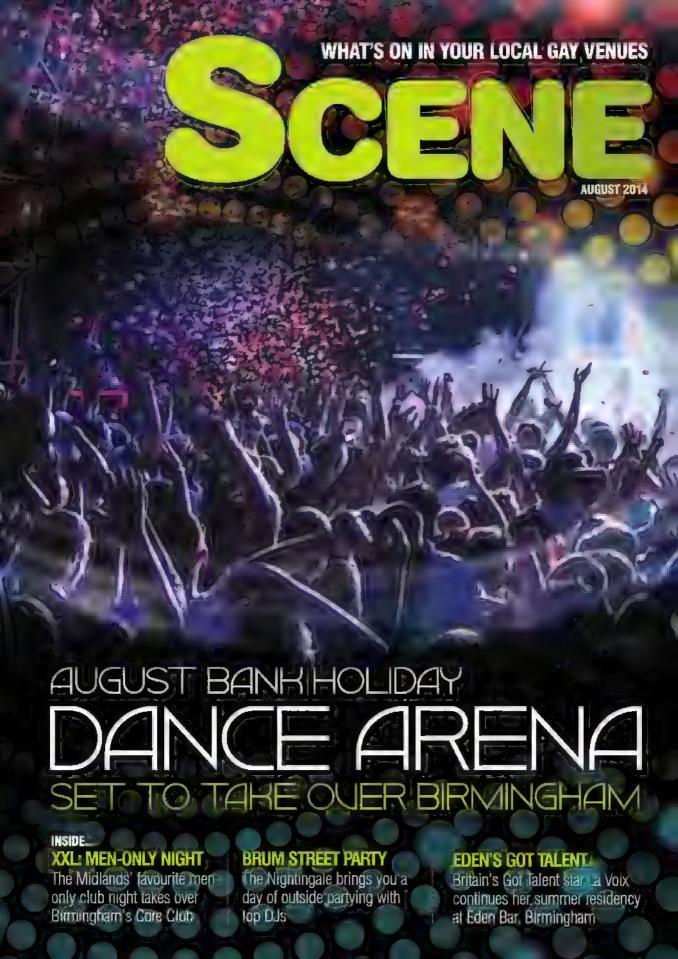


Visit www.midlandszone.co.uk to enter!

WIN! A pair of tickets to the August Bank Holiday Dance Arena event in Birmingham's Gay Village



Visit our Facebook or Twitter page to enter



EVERY MONDAY

Falucous!

THE BIGGEST GAY MONDAY NIGHT IN THE MIDLANDS!

MONDAY 4 AUGUST GLITTER FREE ENTRY B4 11PM

DRINKS FROM £1

9PM-3AM!

C:21

MONDAY 1 SEPTEMBER
VICKY JACKSON
AS JESSIE J











GLITTER LIPS (STUISS IS \$9185400 4810 160 1516,0114 a. 1514

Popular drag duo Giltter Lips are set to make a welcome return to Shrewsbury's biggest and best Monday night out. That's right, C.21 bar and club will be playing host to the outrageously rude and funny couple on Monday 4 August, so make sure you don't miss out And that a not the venue s only draw either, because there are drinks to enjoy from as little as £1 too! Vodka and Energy drinkers will be delighted - they start at just £1.98! We'll take two!

2 FOR 1 COCKTAILS Sunday to

down after work with a cocktail or

2 FOR £10 Monday to Friday 12

MINISTRY OF POUND with DJ Mike

Emery from 9pm, Selected drinks

6pm. Delicious new menu

£1 Open until 2am

Friday Air day & night Wind

THE LOFT LOUNGE

SIDEWALK

Name and



PLAY YOUR CARDS RIGHT with Mrs Mills and D. Craig

RIGHT WITH WRS MILLS

Higher? Lower? That's the tricky decision you have to maké every Monday at The Village Inn, as Mrs Mills and DJ Craig bring you their hilarious version of Play Your Cards Right! Pop on in and have a go! Cash prizes and free drinks Happy Hour 12noon-10pm THE VILLAGE INN

POUKDED Come and get Pounded from 6pm onwards £1 on selected spirits £1 50 Jagerbornb / Carling / Strongbow / Sambucca.

SIDEWALK

POUNDED

Birmingham's popular Sidewalk bar on Hurst Street brings you Pounded each and every Monday From 6pm onwards, you can get your hands on drinks from £1. Spirits, beer, bottles - you name it, it's on and the second of the

SUGAR RUSH £2 entry drinks from £2 various Dus MIGHTINGALE CLUB

MONDAY MADNESS CATE BAN JESTER

OUTSKIRTS E F nonthly EQUATOR BAR

FABULOUS - Mon 4 Aug - Cabaret with Glitter Lips Drinks from just

C:21, SHREWSBURY

CHILL NIGHT with Karaoke THREE FURNACES, TELFORD

CHILL OUT NIGHT with Free Po-4

THE WHITE HART, WOLVERHAMPTOR

DENTED 9pm-midright Downstairs with DJ Destiny and upstairs with DJ L. Jon until 4am. THE FACTORY, STOKE ON TRENT

THE MONDAY CLUB Student night Everyt (Shots £1) with Du L II GORGEOUS. WOLVERHAMPTON

STUDENT NIGHT Free a drinks £150 er PINK, STOKE ON TRENT

2 TILL 2)pen from 2pm t 2am

THE BOSTON, NORTHAMPTON

DISCO 7pm-midnia NEW FORESTERS, NOTTINGHAM

There's no night club needed at Sloanes Bar





If you're out and about in Leicester, then take a trip down New Walk and visit Sloanes.

S mon and the team are on hand to ensure you have a great night, no matter what day of the week you visit

Every Saturday, the venue is open til late and has great drinks offers, great music and best of all, a great atmosphere! Be sure to stop by and say "Hi"!

book,com/midlandszone.co.ui









More great photos on tacebook

TACKY TUESDAYS

Something Tacky comes to Birmingham's popular cabaret bar The Village Inn every Tuesday night. That s right, it's Tacky Tuesdays with Charlotte The Harlotte and Miss Pennyl Expect tun galore as the high-spirited pair bring you a host of entertainment, taking to the mic with some of your favourite songs and presenting games aplenty to keep you thoroughly engaged and delighted particularly as you can win some great prizes! Pop down!



2 FOR 1 COCKTAILS - Sunday to Friday A. day & night Wind down after work with a cocktai or two THE LOFT LOUNGE

2 FOR £10 Monday to Friday 12 6pm. Delicious new menu SIDEWALK

MIS-SING KARAOKE With your host James Party starts at 9pm t ate

Marie Bus

IJ JAMES

Every Tuesday finds Birmingham's Missing Bar hosting a night of karaoke. Join DJ James from 9pm till late and blast out some of your favourite songs over the microphone! Whether you can sing or not, it's always good for a



2 MEALS FOR £10

If you're looking for a meal before your night out, then look no further than Sidewalk in Birmingham. They have a cracking 'two meals for a tenner' menu - great for you and a matel

TACKY TUESDAYS

with Charlotte and Miss Penny Songs Games & Prizes Happy Hour 12noon 10pm

THE VILLAGE INN

TUNE UP TUESDAY Fain & Game on 7 E 1 -BAR JESTER



THREE FURNACES, TELFORD

DIVERSITY WEERLY Q 19 Du or 1 rom pop & h

VELVET, WORCESTER

FLAUNT A twis, of awesome to a

BREWERY TAP, WORGESTER

MISS DOLLY MIXTURES Fine

THE WHITE HART, WOLVERHAMPTON

STUDENT PARTY Join D. v. 3i S bigge [

THE LION BAR & CLUB. WALSALL

2 TILL 2 Open from 2 7 4

THE BOSTON, NORTHAMPTON

CHILL OUT NIGHT F 7.7

New Foresters

Моттивнам

TAKELY BUILDING F ... 1 1 1 1

DOVER CASTLE, LEICESTER



BIRMINGHAN

2 FOR 1 COCKTAILS Shake your ta feathers at Sidewaiks new 2 for 1 cocktail menu

SIDEWALE

2 FOR 1 COCKTAILS - Sunday to Friday A. day & night Wind down after work with a cockta, or two THE LOFT LOWISE

2 GOOD 2 MISS Drinks from just £2 with DJ Mike Emery MISSING BAR

KARAOKE with Chariotte the Harlotte and DJ Deano Free Shots

f you think you've got a singing roice to rivat Beyonce, Elds Goulding or Gary Barlow, then op along to Birmingham's /illage Inn and show it off to Charlotte The Hartotte and DJ

Whilst you may not walk away with a multi-million pound recording contract with Simon owell, you can walk away with a sense of pride - well, o embarrassment, depending on now you've done! * 1. 3 3

F POOL gegen to the species

if you want a chilled-out evening with your mates, be sure to head down to The Fox n Birmingham. It's here that Andy and the team let you play pool for free - so bring along a gaggle of pals and set up a mini-tournament! 1.

for all participants. Happy Hour 120000-80m

THE VILLAGE INN

MIDWEEK MAYHEM From a

THE FOX

MADRY WYDDIASDAYS H 4 Halke James with Du Crizio Hall

BAR JESTER

WEDNESDAY LINE Line Danci

THE WELLINGTON

KY KELLY and THE WHITE HART, WOLVERHAMPTON STUDENT CLUB NIGHT LIVE [

Opm £4 after THREE FURNACES, TELFORD

EAST MIDILANDS

GAMES NIGHT F -- F Drinks from t

NEW FORESTERS, NOTTINGHAM

KARAOKE Som til Sam £2 drin

THE BOSTON, NORTHAMPTON

OUT E £1 drinks , ohl 5ar

NG! NOTTHERAM

865 PAGE 5

if you're out in Nottingham head to NG1 for a night of E1 drinks until 5aml BOOM!

GOOD 2 MISS with issino s Da Mike Emery

the week, but that s no reason to stay ini Pop down to Birmingham's gay vi lage for a night out at Mtssing Bar and a spot of clubbing with DJ Mike Emery

There are drinks from £2 all light, plus a great selection of music that's sure to get you on the dancefloor. Just ion't blame us for the brutal and brain-battering hangover the next morning!



ans of SOUNDED st Charanarajazina . Onolamajazila

Thursday evenings are one of the best times of the week to head down to Birmingham's gay village, as it a the night when all the students come out to play! One of the most popular Thursday venues is The Nightingals. With great musto great drinks from £1 and just £5 entry, a Thursday at the Gale is a great night for sure! Even Marty makes an appearance on the middle floor!



BIRMINGHAL

2 FOR 1 COCKTAILS - Sunday to Friday Air day & night Wind down after work with a cocklail or two THE LOFT LOUNGE

2 FOR £10 Monday to Friday 12 6pm. Delicious new menu

I ♥ THE 90S with DJ Dan. Open from 6pm City BAS

BOMBZAI £1 20 Bombs 10 to choose from Selected drinks from

£1.50 DJ Mykee taking you through to the early hours MISSING BAR

CULT Bringing dirty house back home. Top Floor from 10pm HISHTINGALE CLUB

DJ DEANO On the decks. Happy Hour 12noon-2am THE VILLAGE IND.

DROP THE BOMB start of your weekend £1.50 on ai bombs excluding the Gutterbomb) with our resident Du Rowan

LA YOIX - Thurs 7 / 21 Aug - Live

Britain's Got Talent star La Voix continues her summer residency at Eden Bar this month. Catch her on stage on Thursday 7 & 21 August.

on stage alternate Thursdays Cocktails & Cabaret FREN RAIR

MARTY'S MADHOUSE Songs. Games and Happy Hour until 2am With Miss Marty and DJ Deano THE VILLAGE INN

POUNDED £5 entry Drinks from a £1 DJ Corey playing chart dance and urban on Ground Floor Miss Marty and Du Craig with air the pop and cheese you could ask for on the middle floor

NIGHTINGOLE CLUB

BIRLTWING THE COLO THE FOX The Harman BAR JESTER THE URBAN COLLECTION F

c. 20, 1

CIDS DV8

WEST MIDE AND S

CAMP KARAOKE THREE FURNAGES. TELFORD

CLUB KARAOKE THE LION, WALSALL

THE BELL, STOURANIDGE

FOR 8.93 A PESSON GORGEOUS WULVES

RETRO

THE WHITE HART, WOLVERHAMPTON

ANTE THE PRINCIPAL OF [

THE FACTORY, STOKE ON TRENT

LAST MIDLINES

THE BOSTON, NOUTHAMPTON

ESTISONE & DISCO NEW FORESTERS, NOTTINGHAM

A great night had at Walsall Pride's fundraiser







Last month's fundralsing bash for this month's Walsali Pride festival proved to be a top night out for all who attended.

The event saw Britain s Got Talent semi finalist La Vox take to the stage as the head ine act, with ocal legend G amour also doing her bit to keep the troops enterta ned!

Walsall Pride takes place on Saturday 23 August in the town's Gallery Square









it s a man 's world at **XXL** in Birmingham s Core Club!

For all you men who like men out there, be sure to drop by XXL on the third Friday of the month (Fri 15 August). It's a great night that attracts men from right across the Mid ands. With resident DJ Christian Mipaying the latest and greatest dancefloor filers, you'll be parlying alongs de bears, otters, cubs... you name it, they it be there it's a fiver to get in and there are drinks offers all night long. A night not to be missed!



BIRMINGHAM

2 FOR 1 COCKTAILS - Sunday to Friday All day & night Wind down after work with a cockta or two THE LOFT LOURGE

2 FOR £10 Monday to Friday 12-6pm Delicious new menu Separation

ALL DAY EVERY DAY PRICES D.J. Parm, takes over the weekend by playing the best of club classics, house. R&B and all your favountes Enjoy all day every day prices too SIDEWALK.

BIG GAY FRIDAY Party anthems all night long with Missing s Du James Open until the early hours

DISCO & KARAOKE With DJ Nikk.

FREAKY FRIDAY with DJ Lotty Big name cabaret at midnight Open until 6am Fn 1 Aug Miss Thunderpussy Fn 8 Aug Cassidy Connors Fn 15 Aug Miss Jason Fn 22 Aug Kelly Wilde Fn 29 Aug Sandra. Happy Hour 12noon 8pm

THE VILLAGE INN



Join DJ Corey every Friday night for infusion. Corey whil be playing the best anthems and floorfil ers on the scene. Drinks are from £2 all night long - and it's £2 entry all night long too!

INFUSION Free Entry Absolute Anthems and Floor Fillers with Du Corey Drinks from £2 Admission £2

NIGHTHBALE CLUB

NICK START Kuck start the week-

end from 9pm til the early hours Hosted by James

L&R With Charlotte the Harlotte Open unt. 6am every Friday The VILLAGE INN



tvery first Friday of the month (Fri 1 Aug) is Lip Gloss night at Birmingham's Eden Bar. It's a great night for the trans* community, their friends and admirers - so pop on down and join

LIP GLOSS - Fri 1 Aug - with host Trisha. Every first Friday of the month: A hight for the Trans community (friends welcome) 9pm-2am £3 admission

MIDSBEARS - Fri 15 Aug - Monthly meet up and social group for Bears and Admirers

Eats Ola

In the Tun.



SAATHI - Fri 29 Aug - 13th Birthday Party Every last Friday monthly South Asian Gay and Lesbian club night Bollywood and Bhangra. Nightmease Clus SING STAR SUPERSTAR with DJ Nikki every Enday your chance to win cash!

EDEN BAR



VINTAGE FRIDAYS a right of soul, funk rock, motown Northern Soul and all the classic favourities

THE LOFT LOUNGE

IXI. PRE-BAR - Fri 15 Aug - Official, pre-bar for XXL Monthly meet up for the Midlands Bears

EDEN BAR

XXL - Fri 15 Aug - Men only night with Du Christian M. Early Bear offers until 11pm. Every 3rd Friday of each month.

THE CORE CLUB

BOLLYWOOD NIGHTS Every last

CLUB DV8

RUNKOTUR

CLUB CHIC

KARAOKE Come and have a sing to state you: weekship The For

RETRO FRIDAY Retro tunes with latt Happy Hour uni 2am

BAR JESTER

WEST MIDEANDS

GAY FAMILY PRIDE - Fri 8 to Mon 11 Aug - A weekend of tamily fun and entertainment BARKSWOOD SCOUT CAMP, STAFFORDSHIRE

BARNSWOOD SCOUT GAMP, STAFFORDSHIR

TV PARTY NIGHT A Men's Night for TVs Cross Dressers and Admirers Every Enday night at THE GREENHOUSE, DARLASTON

BRICK 2 BASIC KANADAT 1 [

THE WHITE HART, WOLVERHAMPTON

CLUB NIGHT [9.45 F ... gr ... gr ... THE THREE FURNACES, TELFORD

FROM (-1, F-1)

CLUB FRIDAY with [. . .

THE BELL, STOURBRIDGE

LUSH & YOLO'

BORGEOUS CLUB, WOLVERHAMPTON

PARTY NIGHT WILL A

RAINBOWS, COVENTAY

START THE WEEKEND F sion before 11pm Tanya t v cabaret show from 9pm Pink, Stoke on Trent

TELEFRIDAY A fun and fun the ture of 7us high energy the curren

BREWERY TAP, WORCESTER

VENOM Foxy Divine dover

Lip Divine Divine dover

Lip Divine Size Divine Size

Lip Divine Size Size

Lip Divine Size

Lip Divine dover

Li

EAST MINE NOS

CABARET NIGHT HO

CLUB NIGHT with D. Roi Lambeth from milanight

HELSINIA, LEICESTER

PINK POUNDER Every F

THE BOSTON, NORTHAMPTON

SUBTERN :

New Foresters, Nottingham

THE WEEKEND STARTS IDEA
admission before 1
for students) BOGOF

NG1. NOTTINGHAM

WIG OUT New mont Stoanes, Leicester

Minimog Simonogleshi ozi

Every Friday night at 8/mingham's award-winning cabaret bar The Vilage Inn sees a different act take to the stage for your delight and detectation, the line-up featuring some of the UK's best drag talent. And this month certainly packs a punch! Fri 1 sees Miss Thunderpussy visiting, Fri 8 brings Caseldy Connors to the stage, and Fri 15 see Miss Jason putting in an appearance. Kelly Wilde returns on Fri 22, with Sandra wrapping up the month on Fri 29.





XXL LONDON

WEDNESDAYS 10PM - 3AM SATURDAYS 10PM - 8AM PULSE No.1 INVICTA PLACE SE1 9UF

WWW.XXL-LONDON.COM

BIRMINGHAM

3RD FRIDAY EVERY MONTH 9PM - 3AM THE CORE 135 SHERLOCK ST, BIRMINGHAM

FACEBOOK.COM/XXLLONDON

Weekend-long **DANCE ARENA** comes to Birmingham...

If, like us, you miss the excitement and atmosphere of Birmingham Pride, then fear not The Birmingham gay scene a two biggest clubs - the Nightingale and Chic - have teamed up to bring back one of the most popular aspects of Pride weekend the Dance Arena, Featuring a huge lineup of DJs, including very special guest Grant Nelson, the event takes place on Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 August. There're four rooms and the event runs till Bamil PARTITION OF THE PARTIT



BIRMINGHAM

STATE OF THE STATE

45TH BIRTHDAY - Sat 30 Aug - The Nightingaie celebrating it s 45th birthday A big celebration with a big name surprise PA. All your tavounte resident Dus will make the night so with a swing Night Timbure Guib

80S HITS with DJ Dan from 2am it's back to the 80s with cheap drink promotions

EDEN BAR

THE ATTIC Available for hire Call the venue for more info 0121 622 4256

Direction Base

BACK TO THE 80S 2am 4am Eden Ban

BEARBRUM - Sat 9 Aug - Free tood With D. Yogi in association with Mids Bears Sports wear theme. The hunt starts for Mr. M disbear 2014. Win £500 Enew Bar

BIG SATURDAY NIGHT OUT Over 2 floors 3 DJs Open til 8am With DJ Lotty & DJ Richard Moon. With DJ Tonie n The Village Jnderground The Village Inn

BIG SATURGAY NIGHT OUT Every Saturday with loads of drinks promotions

Инантивале Сшв

CULT Bringing dirty house back home. Top Floor from 10pm

DANCE ARENA - SATISUM 23:24
AUGUST - 2pm until Midnight, D.
Iline-up live PAs include. The
Architects, K-Mass, Tr., Faith,
Danny Bond and Marc Spence
blus toads more.

BROMSGROVE STREET CAR PARK (NEXT TO THE LOFT LOUNGE)

DANCE TEXT AFTERVARTY -

SatiSun 23/24 Aug - 4 Rooms Open until 8am Special Guest Grant Nelson DJ In-up includes Danny Bond Big Ang, Wayne H Lisa Sharred Joe Campbell, Becky G and more

MIGHTINSALE CLUB

KARAOKE & COCKTAILS In The Attic, plus music from across the deades

Missina

LBR With Charlotte the Hariotte Open until 8am every Saturday THE VILLAGE INN

PIRATE NIGHT - Sat 30 Aug - Dance the Plank with fantastic prizes Fancy dress theme night Sidewalk

SATURS-FACTION Welcome in the weekend with resident DJ, playing the best of everything

SATURDAY SESSIONS With Du Simon Baker from 8pm The Loft Lourge

STREET PARTY - Sal 9 Aug - Kent Street is closed Midday. 10pm for The Night ngale s Street Party With Dus Simon Baker Corey, Richard Moon, Simon Hams, Wayne H Lisa Shared and Joe Campbell. Advance wristbands £5

NIGHTINGALE CLUB

SWAGGERLICIOUS Every Saturday night (Room 4) Hightingale Club

WE <3 SATURDAYS with DUMykee piaying the best party tunes Featuring Twiggy and sexy Shane on his stills. Open until 4am.

Married Rive

THE BREAKFAST CLUB E ver

CLUB CHIC

DJ NIKKI 1st Sa. month: Equator Bar

DJ PARTY NIGHT Open from 3pr

THE FOX

#JUST SAYING With Du **

BAR JESTER

KARAOKE Every Sating: The Wellington

WEST MIDLANDS

GAY FAMILY PRIDE - Sat 9 - Mon 11

Aug - A weekend of family fun and entertainment

BARNSWOOD SCOUT CAMP, STAFFORDSHIRE



STOKE PRIDE AFTER-PARTY AT THE FACTORY

Stoke-On-Trent Pride s official after-party takes place at The Factory, Hanley's biggest gay club. The event runs from 7pm on Saturday 9 August right through until 4am on Sunday the 10th.

THE FACTORY - STOKE-OR-THENT

OFFICIAL AFTER PARTY - Sat 9 Aug
- The official Stoke on Trent Pride
after party. /pm-4am.
The Factory, Stoke on Trent

Aug - . GBT picnic in the park
The Quarry, Shrewsaury

STOKE ON TREAT PRIDE - Sat 9 Aug - Annual Pride event. Main stage Inne-up includes Arnella Lily, Big Brovas, Kitty Brucknell Stolen Identity plus many more visit www.stokeonfrentpride.org.uk for more information.

NORTHWOOD PARK, STOKE ON TRENT

WALSALL PRIDE - Sat 23 Aug Annua Pride festival. Main stage in
Galiery Square includes Jo
Omeaira (S-Club) Diva Fever and
Luke John plus many more
Cabaret Marquee is staged at The
Red Lion Plus there is a full line up
of entertainment at The John Bar &
Club

VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN WALSALL

THE ANTIDOTE D

THE FACTURY, STOKE ON TRENT

BIG NIGHT OUT Big Du Lines Aprol 3 30am The Lion, Walsali

CAMP & SLAG

Lubric 7 July 5 John

GORGEOUS, WOLVERHAMPTON

CLUB NIGHT Drink promosium:
45 Free entry be a significant
The Three Funnaces, Teleparo

FLOORFILLERS with Du Andrew

RAINBOWS, COVENTRY

INCLUSION WITH P

THE BELL STOURBRIDGE

LIVE CABARET With Due Gaz a

THE WHITE HART, WOLVERHAMPTON

NOT TO MISS Free admission
ore 11pm Tanya H barel show 9pm
PINK, STOKE ON TRENT

EAST MIDLANDS

LEICESTER PRIDE - Sat 30 Aug -Annua East Midlands Pride Parade Midday from The Curve Theatre to Victoria Park Festiva Victoria Park

VICTORIA PARK, LEICESTER

BIG WEEKEND PARTY NIGHT

10pm t. 6am Free entry bero1pm £3 before 1am and £5

THE BOSTON, NORTHAMPTON

BIG SATURDAY NIGHT OUT -

NG1, Nort ngham

CLUB NIGHT - With DU Nik Blood

midnight £ Hatsinia, Leicestan

DISCO Disco 9om-4am F

New Fohesters, Northneham

The Nightingale's **STREET PARTY** comes to Kent Street

Saturday 9 August sees a very special event come to Birmingham's Nightingale Club (well, to the outside of it anyway!) From midday to 10pm, Kent Street will be closed as Birmingham's leg endary gay superclub hosts its biggest party of the year, with DJs Corey, Simon Baker, Simon Harris and Richard Moon all in attendance. Advance wristbands are on sale now for just £5. It's set to be a massive party, so be sure to pop along! The state of the s 10 15 (000) 111



The Hickory Sollers - 11



BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

DANCE ARENA

SAT 23TH & SUN 24TH AUGUST



THE ARCHITECTS

BODY GROOVE, SHOW ME THE MONEY

K-KLASS KKLASS

LIVE PACLET ME SHOW YOU, RHYTHM IS A MYSTERY



UNE PATERIAL LIKE ME, LET THE BEAT HIT EM



RUE JAY / CLINTON SHAWE & RIC JAMES
FELTON / BURKIE / JOE HUNT / LISA SHARRED
JADE MARIE / DAVEY BOY / YAN // PHUNKY SMALLZ
AMY BANKS // TINY DEE // MIDGE // MARTIN GREEN // JJ

FIRE BREATHERS / ANGLE GRINDERS / CONFETTI CANNONS / LIGHT SHOW DANCERS / BEACH BALLS / ICE CREAM VAN / BURGER VAN

THE CAR PARK

BROMSGROVE STREET, BIRMINGHAM B5 6RG

TIME 2PM - MIDNIGHT PRICE £15 ALL DAY





Simulations of Cabaret, you're a fan of cabaret, you're in for a treat at Birmingham's Missing Bar! Head there on Sunday 24 August for a night of fun and games with a whole host of drag queens from across the Mid.ands and beyond! The charity night, in aid of AB+,

BIRMINGHAM

Males Twiggy, Drag Idol win-

ner Louis Cyfer, Boyonce and

your hosts for the evening,

Miss Penny and Gavina!

2 FOR 1 COCKTAILS Sunday to Finday A. day & night Wind down after work with a cocktai or two THE LOFT LOWINGE

2 FOR £10 New menu. Roast Dinner served every Sunday from 1pm

SIDEWALK

24 Aug - 4 Rooms Open unt 8am. Special Guest Grant Neison Du Im-up Includes. Danny Bond Big Ang. Wayne H Lisa Sharred. Joe Campber Becky G and more

HIGHTINGALE CLUB

DISCO & KARAOKE with DJ Nikk. Every Sunday From Bar

DRAG NIGHT - Sun 24 Aug - The 5th annual Drag Night Chanty night in aid of AB + With Twiggy Louis Cyter (2014 winner), plus a Boyoncé musical extravaganza Hosted by Miss Penny & Gavina

MISSING PRESENTS Cabaret every Sunday hosted by one of their fabLious drag queens
Missing Bas

SURDAY BREAKFAST The periect hangover cure from 9am Just £7 95 Carvery from 12noon for just £9 95

THE LOFT LOUNGE

SUNDAY CABARET - Sun 24 Aug Bank Holiday Special with Titti La Camp

THE VILLAGE THIN

SUNDAY SESSION with Mrs Mills and D. Deano Plus Bingo with Mrs Mills from 7pm. Happy Hour 12noon 10pm

THE VILLAGE INN



SUPER SUNDAY DINNER served from 1pm. Cure that hangover and choose from a vanety of meats with air the best bits of a roast for only £6.95

-

CHILLAX Look out for the sper may promotions by:

THE FOX

BROWSGROVE SYREET CAR PARK (NEXT TO THE LOFT LOURGE)

FLASHBACK SUP 2 FOR THE SERVICE OF T

BAR JESTER

SWEDST IS VUNDAY B

BAR JESTER

THREE COURSE LUNCH ONLY & ...
THE WELLINGTON

WEST MIDEANDS

GAY FAMILY PRIDE -Sun 10 - Man 11 Aug -A weekend of family fun and entertainment Barkswood Scour Came,

STAFFORDSHIRE



CHILL OUT A THE RAINBOWS, COVENTRY

OF OFFI

MARTY'S PARTY 9pm 4am F S

GORGEOUS, WOLVERHAMPTON

QUEENS OF DRAG with Marty Till.

THE WHITE HAHT, WOLVERHAMPTON

RANDOM PARTY NIGHT OD-

THREE FURNACES, TELFORD

TOTAL STREET, S. J. F.

THE FACTORY, STOKE ON TRENT

Midnight
THE LON BAR & CLUB, WASSALL

SUNDAY ROAST Served of The White Hart, Wolverhampton

EAST MIDEANDS

LEICESTER PRIDE BALL - Sun 24 Aug - Annua Leicester Pride Ball Tickets £45

THE CITY ROOMS, LEICESTER

RAINBOW & DOVE, LEICESTER

NEW FORESTERS, NOTTINGHAM

ENGLANCE AND PROPERTY OF

THE BOSTON, NORTHAMPTON





Start your Saturday in style at Brum's Sidewalk









It's the weekend You're heading out with your mates in Birmingham's gay village and you're unsure of where to go. If you're looking to start your night off in style, then head to Birmingham's Sidewalk.

The award-winning Hurst Street bar is the idea, place to grab a drink with your pais before heading on to a club or party bar

If you want some food before starting your night off, then don't worry, Sidewa k have got that covered too! They ve a great menu that runs into the late evening, gearing you up for a brill ant night of drinks and dancing. We II see you at the bar.

www.sidewalkbirmingham.co.uk

Marin greamonorous on facebook

















Party till the sun comes up at The Village Inn

Birmingham's Village Inn is one of the city's most popular gay venues - and it's easy to see why.

The venue not only attracts a massive cross-section of the LGBT community, it also offers punters an electric atmosphere to enjoy each and every weekend.

Young, old, male, female gay, lesbian or straight - everyone's equally wercome at The V lage Inn. A great line-up of resident DJs across the weekend ensures the dancefloor is full, with patrons throwing shapes to some of the biggest and best tunes around

And the best bit? On Saturdays, the Village Inn is open right through until 8am BOOM!

www.villagebirmingham.co.uk









More great photos on facebook

















FRIDAY 01 Miss Thurdenpussy **AUGUST**

FRIDAY 08





FRIDAY 22 Kelly Wilde



SUNDAY 24
Pitti La Camp



FRIDAYS TILL 6AM SATURDAYS TILL 8AM



FRIDAY 29 Sandna



MOJUAN WITE WHEE WHILLS L DJ GRAG



TUESDAY WITH MISS PENNY CHARLOTTE THE HARLOTTE



WITH D. DEA. IO O CHAIN ONE THE LARLOTTE



MISS MARTY 3 DJ DCANO



FR.DA (C MHH SICKLE CIE CARARET AT 12 /44



WITH Z FLOORS OF MUSIC FLUS 8 AM BAR



351194.73 BATOO FROM 7 OLDEANIO Willer Str. DA. I 353310-13

let us entertain you



VILLAGEINNBIRMINGHAM



WILLAGEBRUM



THEVILLAGEBIRMINGHAM

Eden Bar: A paradise for Midlands fellas!

Whilst it's not strictly 'men only', Eden Bar in Birmingham is certainly the best place for gay guys from across the Midlands to meet up, socialise and have a top night out.

Every night at Eden Bar sees a great crowd of people having an equal y great time, with Saturdays offering the chance for punters to enjoy DJ Dan p aying chart, cheese, pop and (his favourite) PWL clas-SICS

And if karaoke is your thing DJ N kki's got it in hand with a good of singalong session every Friday and Sunday

Eden's not a muit ple-awardwinner for nothing, you know!

www.theedenbar.co.uk







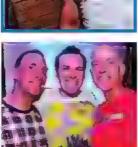




More great photos on facebook



















EDEN THIS MON

ECEP August 116 Sherlock Street Birmingham 65 6NB 0721-622 1953 www.theedenbasses/P



FOR THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY Colour Your Life & Shimmer Your Night



MONTHLY MEET

In the Marquee Drinks Offers All Night

COCKTAIL

exclusive of opplace



tarts again.... £500 PRIZE the Marquee - DJ Yogi - Food

EVERY THURS

EVERY FRI & SUN



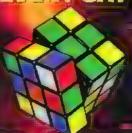
90s HITS WITH DJ DAN

GREAT ATMOSPHERE

KARAOKE &

COME ALONG & SING WITH A FRIENDLY REGULAR CROWD

EVERY SAT



80s HITS WITH D'I-DAN

POP & DANCE TILL 2 80s FROM 2-4 AM & CRAZY DRINK PRICES

There's weekend fun to be had at Missing Bar!

If you enjoy a great party atmosphere at the weekend, be sure to stop by the everpopular Missing Bar in Birmingham.

Saturday night sees Du Mykee taking to the decks to play a fantastic mix of pop, chart, cheese Rin B, dance and commercial tunes - getting you on your feet and on the dancefloor in no time at a

DJ Mykee isn't the venue s only attraction, though There's Twiggy too - Missing's hostess with the mostess' not to mention sexy topless dancers galore

Swing by on your next night out we're sure you won't be disappointed!

NAC TE





























Summer Saturday Sessions at The Loft Lounge!







Summer in Birmingham's Gay Village is a great time of year - not least because of Samon Baker's Summer Sessions at popular bar and restaurant The Lott Lounge!

Resident DJ Simon is on hand every Saturday night to do what he does best - get you in the mood for a great night out on Birmingham's bright and vibrant gay scene

Whether you're popping to the Loft Lounge for a pre-club cocktail, a glass of bubbly or a delicious three-course meal the fun and friend y team will get you in the mood for a brilliant night out.

Pop in and say hi just as soon as you possibly can! www.theloftlounge.co.uk

More great photos on facebook

























Drag fun at Birmingham's Nightingale Club

Last month saw RuPaul's Drag Race star Sharon Needles turn up at Birmingham's Nightingale Club to help select the winner of the 'UK's Drag Race'.

Organisers of the event watched lots of keen amateur drag queens strut their stuff across the stage, all eager to prove they were the fercest, sassiest and downright bitchiest act in town. The eventual winner was Kitty Iray, who, judging by the crowd's reaction, was abso utely the right choice!

Look out for the venue's Street Party on Saturday 2 August, from m dday through till 10pm Advance tickets at £5 are now ava able!

www.nightingalectub.co.uk













The leading















Birmingham

Hoi oway Circus B1 1EG Tel 0121 643 8344

BOLTZ CLUB Lower Essex St, B5 6QP

Tel 0121 666 6888

CAUTE CHIC

28 Horsefa.r, B11DD

Tel 0121 666 6806

16 Lower Essex Street B5 6RD Tel. 0121 622 1060

THE CORE
Sheriock St, B5 6NB
Tel. 0121 622 2797
www.thecoreclub.co.uk
1 thecoreclub.limingham

Sheriock St, B5 6NB Tel: 0121 622 1953 www.theedenber.co.uk 1 reden.bar See pictures on page 48

Hurst St B5 6SE Tel 0121 622 5077

EQUATOR

Wrentham St, B5 6QL Tel 0121 622 1452

17 Lower Essex St B5 6SN Tei 0121 622 3213

142 Bromsgrove St, B5 6RG 10121 6222 444 www.theloftlounge.so.uk 7/The-Loft-Lounge See pictures on page 52

MISSING DAR Hurst St, B5 6NJ Tel 0121 622 4256 www.missingbanco.uk /missingbar See plotures on page 50

THE NIGHTINGALE Kent St, B'ham B5 6RD Tel: 0121 622 1718

Tel: 0121 622 1718
www.nightingaleclub.co.uk
Thenlightingaleclub
Bee plotures on page 54

RSVP (formerly Queer Street) For Exclusive Hire Hurst St, B5 6SE Tel: 0121 622 2444

Hurst Street
B1 1EG
Tel 0121 666 6220
www.sidewalkbirmingham.co.uk

THE VILLAGE INN Hurst St, B'ham B5 4BD Tel: 0121 622 4742 www.villagebirmingham.co.uk

THE WELLINGTON
72 Bristor St, B5 7AH
Tel 0121 622 2592

/villageinnbirmingham

West Midlands

0.03(0.00)

Short St CV1 2.W Tel: 02476 551738

GLOUCESTER

THE WESTGATE Westgate Street GL1 2NF Tel 01452 690045

KIDDERMINSTER

ROYAL EXCHANGE 31 New Road, DY10 1AF Tel 01562 228619

MIR.

3 Stanley Street, ST13 5HG Tei 01538 382812

SHREWSBURY

Abbey Foregate SY2 6AE Tet: 01743 271821 www.c21bango.uk

21 Abbey Foregate.
Tel 01743 355055
www.thepeachtree.og.uk

22 Abbey Foregate. SY2 6AE Ter 01 743 271821 www.spiritchampagne.co.uk

grade aways or

67 Bryan St Hanley, ST1 5AF

93 Stafford Street, ST1 1LS Tei 01782 272772

STOURBRIDGE

70 E 20 Market St, DY8 1AG Tei 07826 518478

STRATFORD upon AVON

Prowd Crowd 1st Mon monthly 7 Windsor St Tei 07787 642510

TELFORD

THREE FURNACES 30 Bridgmorth Rd Madeley TF7 4...B Tel: 01952 588521

WALSALL

LION BAR & CLUB Birchills St. WS2 8NG Tel 01922 610977

THE RED LION Park St WS1 1NW Tel 01922 637790

WOLVERHAMPTON

14 Bond St. WV2 4AS Te: 07825 305050

GORGEOUS CLUB School St WV1 4LF Tei 01902 427247

Avercester St WV2 - L 2 Tel 01902 423998

WORCESTER

THE FLAG 50 Lowesmoor, WR1 2SG Tel 01905 780467

Angel Row, .WR1 3QN Te 01905 20218

East Midlands

DERBY

THE CROWN INN 40 Curzon St. DE1 1LL Ter 01332 381742



0.1.48

DOVER CASTLE 34 Dover St LE16PT Tel: 0116 255 3052

94 Rutiand St. LE1 1SB Tel: 0116 254 7568

RAINBOW & DOVE 185 Charles St LE1 1LA Tel 0116 254 7568

3-5 New Walk, LE1 6RL
Tel: 0116 255 2220

1/sloanestar
See pioturus on page 39

(YOLO) Gay every Wed Beigrave Gate. LE13GR Tel: 0116251 7986

MANSFIELD

Leeming St. NG18 1NG Tel: 01623 633330

sto Wile State C

College St NN1 2QP Tel: 01604 604404

NUMBER

St Ann's St NG1 3_LX Tel: 0115 958 0432

THE NEWMARKET INN 38 Lower Parlament Street NG1 3BA, (Gay Friendly)

Friendly)
NG1 CLUB
76-80 Lower Parliament

76-80 Lower Partiament St. NG1 1EH Tel: 0115 958 8440

PROPAGANDA 8 Broadway NG1 1PS 0115 979 9183

BARS & CLUBS
FEATURED IN
THIS ISSUE
ARE HILIGHTED
IN BUACK
CHECK OUT THEIR

CHECK OUT THEIR ADVERTS







One Man, Two Guvnors

Based on The Servant Of Two Masters by Cario Goldoni, this Nationa. Theatre production is directed by Nicholas Hytner and stops off in the Midiands as part of its biggest ever UK and Ireland four Fired from his skiffle band. Francis Henshall becomes minder to Roscoe Crabbe, a small-time East End hood who's now in Brighton to collect £6,000 from his francée's dad. But Roscoe is really his sister Rachel, posing as her own dead brother, who's been k, led by her boyfriend. Stanley Stubbers. You keeping up?. Ex-Eastender Shaun Williamson stars.

The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, until Thurs 2 October



Arden Of Faversham

Determined to free herself from a miserable marriage so that she can be with her lover, Alice Arden recrists a band of would-be murderers to put paid to her husband... This is a short work of theatre by RSC standards, with the curtain falling after just one hour and forty minutes. Still, it's quality rather than quantity that matters, and this Elizabethan domestic tragedy has certainly got the former in abundance. Its author's identity is unknown, a fact which has led to Thomas Kyd. Christopher Mariowe and even William Shakespeare being credited with the piece. Sharon Small (pictured below), whose credits include BBC's Inspector Lynley Mysteries and Mistresses, makes her RSC debut as Aice Arden.

The Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon,until Thurs 2 October

Brendan Riley

Although he's often been lambasted for pedding material that simaybe a bit on the shabby side. Brendan Riey nonetheless knows how to give a roomful of people a good time. A greganous Liverpudlian, his winning per sonality allows him to generate a near instant rapport with his audience, in so doing ensuring they like him way too much to worry that his gags are maybe a little implied to worry that his gags are maybe a little implied and tongwinded. Brendan's probably at his best as a compere, a role he's assuming this very evening He takes his place in the comedy limelight alongside fellow purveyors of mirth Matt Kirshen and Simon Bligh. Kirshen and Simon Bligh. Kirshen and Simon Bligh.

Manford Comedy Club, Players Bar, Blomingham, Fri 16 August



Andrew Bird

Described as a boy-next door kinda guy, Andrew Bird is a cheery and affable funnyman who can fairly quickly get an audience eating out of the palm of his hand. That said and as can often be the case with up and coming comedians he sia wee bit more about style than substance, and will need to start harvesting a fair greater quantity of cut ting-edge mater at if he sireally going to make an impact in the fiercely competitive arena of stand-up comedy.

The George Hotel, Lichfleld, Sun 3 August, Highlight Comedy Club, Birmingham, Fri 8 - Sat 9 August





Reel Big Fish

Reel Big Fish's high-energy sound has provided inspiration for big names such as No Doubt and Blink 182. Best known for 1997 hit Sell-Out, the Californian Punk Skalheroes cover of A-Hais Take On Me has gained cult status. The boys are renowned for their live shows, offening a fun combination of crazy dancing, inspired covers and catchy songs.

The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent, Mon 11 Aug, The Stade Rooms, Wolverhampton, Wed 13 Aug



Rahat Fateh Ai Khan

Pak stan singer Rahat Fateh Ali Khan primarily performs Qawwal, a devotional music of the Musim Sufis but a so performs ghazais and other light music. A Bollywood playback singer, Rahat's work includes Pakistani nationalistic songs such as Dharti Dharti and Hum Pakistan. He has toured extensively in Pakistan, India and the UK.

LG Arena, Birmingham, Mon 25 Aug





The Inbetweeners CERT the

Starring Simon Bird, James Buckley, Brake Harrison, Joe Thomas, Belinda Stewart-Wilson Directed by Damon Beesley and Iain Morris (UK)

Having wreaked havoc in Crete, Jay Cartwright (Buckley) goes on a gap year in Australia and invites along his sex-mad, half-witted friends. The last film - The inbetweeners Movie broke box-office records in the UK, so expect much more of the same. Out 6 August



The Expendables 3 CERT 150

Starring Sylvester Stalione, Jason Statham, Antonio Banderas, Jet Ll. Wesley Snipes, Dolph Lundgren, Mel Gibson, Harrison Ford, Arnold Schwarzenegger Directed by Patrick Hughes (USA)

At one point in this ludicrously violent and wittess franchise, Barney Ross (Stallone) was forced to shuff the Expendables ruth essiand unscrupulous co-founder, Contrad Stonebanks (Mel Gibson). But Stonebacks survived and so Barney must now recruit a new band of younger Expendables to help him finish the job. It must have been a nightmare working as a PR on this set: whose ego would you have stroked the hardest?, Out 14 August

Into The Storm

CERT 12a (89 mins)

Starring Richard Armitage, Sarah Wayne Callies, Matt Walsh, Alycia Debnam-Carey Directed by Steven Quale (USA)

The poster is impressive but for those looking for a meteorological Godzilla should be warned that this is a "found footage" thinger. The premise is about a group of students who attempt to document the devastating effects of a tornado and so the events are relayed by video camera à la Cloverfield Paranormal Activity Chronicie, et al The Leicester born actor Richard Armitage (The Hobbit, TV's Spooks) piays a widowed father trying to rescue his son. Out 22 August



Step Up 5: All In

CERT PG (112 mins)

Starring Ryan Guzman, Briana Evigan, Alyson Stoner, Adam Sevant Directed by Trish Sie (USA)

Step up, step up here s the sequel to Step Up Revolution (2012) or rather the fifth chapter in the Step up franchise about those ripping dance devotees. On this occasion it is a about a life-changing contest in Las Vegas. We must just contain ourselves. In 3D, Out 1 August





Lucy CERT 15 (112 mins)

Starring Scarlett Johansson, Morgan Freeman, Amr Waked, Chol Min-sik, Pilou Asbæk Directed by Luc Besson (France USA/Tawan)

Scarlett Johansson kicked major ass as the Black Widow in The Avengers and now has a movie to herself. Here she plays Lucy a drug mule living in Taipei whose body is permeated by a drug she is carrying, which boots her brain power to superhuman proportions. Quite simply she becomes amazing and turns on the gangsters who have been exploiting her. Out 22 August.

DVDs

Bruno & Earlene Go To Vegas (15)

When headstrong Earlene makes a discovery that she's totally unprepared for, she acts on impulse, leaves everything behind and heads to LA. There, she meets Bruno, a mysterious and beautiful wandering intersex teenager. The two become friends, but when Earlene gets embroiled in one of Bruno's home-rental scarns whilst simultaneously discovering the lengths to which he'il go to score some cash she takes the youth under her wing and drives off into

the desert

A sexually confused carjacker a pair of Scottish ex-strippers and a tap-dancing drag queen all cross the pair's path, and settle into a little place deep in the Nevada desert. Like Earlene and Bruno, this cast of runaways and rebeis learn to live and love each other in ways they'd never before experenced.



Who's Afraid Of Vagina Wolf (15)

Anna is a chansmatic but strugging filmmaker facing a mid ife crisis. She's just turned 40, fives in her friend's garage in LA, dances in a vagina costume for money, and has neither job nor girlfinend. Just when she s about to give up on both (after years of getting nowhere), she meets sexy post feminist Katia.

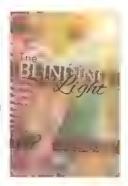
To impress her, she decides to write and direct an an-female remake of Who's Afraid Of Virginia Woolf?, casting Katia and her best friends Chloe and Penelope in the film. Along the way, with the help of those around her, she discovers some real home truths - with hilarious results.



...and something to read

The Blinding Light by Renae Kaye

wake Manning's smart mouth frequently gets him into trouble Because of it, he can't hold down a job. When a housekeeping position opens, wake's so desperate, he leaps at the opportunity. On landing, he finds his new boss, Patrick Stanford, to be a fussy, arrogant and rude man. Born without sight, Patrick is used to being accommodated, but he's met his match with wake, who doesn't take any of his crap and threatens to swap all the braille labels on his groceries and run off with his guide dog unless he behaves. Jaxe gets a kick out of Patrick so much so, in fact, that he wonders if it's maybe time to explore the possibility of starting a relationship with him.

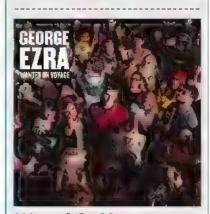


New Music



Sorry I'm Late

It's been nearly four years since Lioyd graced our TV screens, rising to fame after making the final rounds of the X Factor. Now she's back with a second album packed with should-be hits, including Sirens and I Wish.



Wanted On Voyage

Handsome chappy George Ezra's muchanticipated debut album has been a huge hit since its release - and for good reason too It's packed with feelgood songs, including the Top Three hit Budapest. Other favourites of the Midlands Zone team include Cassy O and Blame It On Me

Finest Selection

The Saturdays

The Saturdays have produced hit after hit in

their highly successful career, and now they're returning with this greatest hits offering. Expect all of your favourites and more on this must have a bum! It is be on repeat at Zone



Grant of £16,400 awarded to research LGBT cancer care in Leicestershire and Rutland

Research charity Hope Against Cancer is to provide £16,400 to investigate issues and concerns from Leicestershire and Rutland LGBT people affected by cancer

The Leicester Mercury reports
'Dr Julie F sh, a reader in social
work and health inequalities at
Leicester's De Montfort University
and a member of the National
Cancer Equality Implementation
Group (NCE), will ask patients to
document their experiences of
cancer

'She said; "Although research among this population has been carried out internationally, this will be the first study of this nature in the UK. The Department of Health, Cancer Patient Experience Survey 2013 which included 838 LGBT patients, revealed significant differences in cancer care and support. Current

cancer literature can be inappropriate for this group "

The study will investigate quality of life, access to formal and informal support, and the experiences of survivors.

Nige Rose, Hope Against Cancer's chief executive, said "Equality in care is vital to ensure that all cancer patients in Leicestershire and Rutiand have the support they need to battle this disease. At Hope, we've supported research into medica. advances as wer as quality of care Research into cancer care is an important aspect to our research it can lead to new insights, better prevention, and forms a key part of our strategy to improve the outcome for patients in our region."

The project is being supported for one year

Sexual health charity makes move to new Shrewsbury office

HIV and sexual healthy charity Terrence Higgins Trust in Shropshire has left its offices in Wellington, Telford, for new premises at the Roy Fletcher Centre in Shrewsbury.

The charity has been providing sexual health services to local people in Shropshire for nine years. Every Wednesday, from 4pm to 7pm, the charity's new centre on Cross Hill will provide free information and advice, as well as chlamydia testing.

The team will also supply free condom-cards, aiming to encourage young people to stay safe from sexually transmitted infections by allowing them to access free condoms and advice in an easy discreet and confidential way.

The centre will also offer a free rapid H.V testing service

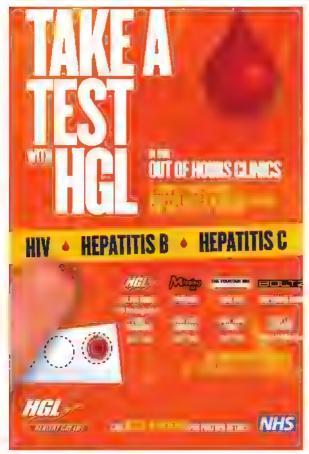
Testing involves a finger-prick blood test, providing results in 20 minutes. Support will be provided before and after the test, and anyone who tests positive will be referred to a specialist clinic.

Trained staff and volunteers will also take to the streets of Shrewsbury in a roving clinic every Thursday, from 2pm til 5pm, to offer the same services. The team hope that the roving clinic will make services more accessible to people in the area.

Terrence Higgins Trust will continue to offer the same service in Terford on Mondays and Tuesdays, at various postures.

For more information, contact Terrence Higgins Trust in Shropshire on (01952) 221 410, or email

nfo.shropshire@tht.org.uk.





Trade Sexual Health is COMING OUT!

In the next few months, Trade Sexual Health in Leicester will be moving from its longestablished home at 15 Wellington Street.

For nearly 15 years, Trade has supported the health needs of the LGBT communities in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland From a starting point as a small gay men's charity, it has won an NHS Gem award for its work with sauna-based cinics, secured national innovation funding for HIV testing at Pride and HIV prevention work in prisons, launched new health services for lesbian, bisexual and trans communities, and been chosen as the lead agency for the East and West Mid ands to deliver the national HIV prevention programme

With its current lease at 15 Wellington Street running out, Trade is taking the opportunity to find a new home - one that will help it continue to deriver its award-winning programmes increase its engagement with the communities it serves, and launch new projects and partnerships. Along the way, Trade will also be tooking at new ways to support the health and wer being of the LGBT communities.

wer being of the LGBT communities.

Over the next few months, the organisation will be out and about in various locations across the city and county, talking to the community and partners about which new services it

should look at providing Although planning for the future, it is very much a case of 'business as usua,' at 15 Wellington Street, where the team continue to deliver a wide range of services, from drop-in advice to HIV testing and one-to-one counseling.

Sal Kha ifa and Veronica Nall Trade's Co-Directors said of the news, "We re very excited about our

very excited about our vision and this change, which will see significant development for Trade. A new location will help

Trade to continue to improve our service delivery and to reach even more LGBT people

Our current lease has ended, giving us the opportunity to look at other ways we can deliver services best suited to the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rut and LGBT communities.

"Trade will be running at of our usual services from now until we move. We hope to offer a



wider range of health and we being services from our new premises. As all of our service users know sexual health has been, and will continue to be, a big part of our work, but we've always had a broader view. We're not only interested in the sexual bits, but in the whole person."

Keep up to date with Trade Sexual Health by visiting www.tradesexualhealth.com





GET TESTED!

- HIV Rapid Testing (results given in 1 minute)
- Chlamydia Screening
- Syphilis Rapid Testing

Our Free & Confidential services in Dudley and Sandwell Include:

- Support with dealing with HIV diagnoses and medication adherence
- Sexual Health information & Advice
- Access to Counselling and Complementary therapies
- Free access to condoms and tube
- One to one support with complex issues
- Peer Support Groups
 Support for sero-discordant relationships
- Support and advice around your rights, discrimination or hate crime
- Twice monthly non-scene Gay & Bisexual Men's group
- UNIQUE Young Persons (16-24 yrs) LGBTQ support

Contact us today to book an appointment or for more Information.

Unit 2, Holloway House. Martin Hill Street Dudley DV2 8RT

Suite 3, 1st Floor Lanchard House, Victoria Street, West Bromwich B70 8ER

info@shsl.org.uk / 01384 243 220



summit house

Are you offering an Escort or Massage service in the Midlands region?

Call Chris on 01743 281704 to discuss how you could feature on this page.

With advertising rates from just £25+VAT per month you could reach our 60,000 plus readers!







Meso-Btox
The 'no needle alternative to Bolox
Microdermabrasion
Body Hair Removal

Gift Vouchers Available

Private Treatment Cabin - Pres Off Bood Purking Raunt in Belgor, Derbyshim, DES6 6HD www.LeeAndrews.co

WWW.ECCANGICWING

01773 273124 🗢 07879 558926

Payment By Cosh, Depit & Credit Carp



Tel: 0121 568 6126

Willenhal Road, Darlaston, West Mid ands, WS10 8JG gay-sauna.com

SPARTAN

Tel: 0121 382 3345 127 George Road, Erdington Birmingham, B23 7SH spartanhealthclub.co.uk

UNIT 2

Tel: 0121 622 7070 Lower Essex Street, Birmingham, B5 6SN unit2sauna.info

> For information Check out the above venue adverts in this issue

CELTS
Tel: 0116 285 6000
38 Narborough Roa
LE LE feir LE FBQ
celts-sauna coluk

CITY STEAM
Tel: 01332 209150
8-9 St Mary's Gate,Derby
[E 1 3.)

citystea nicoluki

CITY STEAM 2
Tel: 0115 959 8603
1 Lennox Street
Nottingham NG1 1ER
citysteam.co.uk

HEROES HEALTH CLUB
Tel: 01384 442030
4-5 Lower High S -Stourbridge W -- M -- Ands
DY8 1TE
heroeshealthclub.com

Tel: 01623 422257 71 Ratorife Gate. Ma e NG18 2JB manzfields.co uk

CITY CELTS
Tel: 0116 262 7770
33 New Bond St, Le e et
LE1 4RQ

celts-sauna co.uk

REFLECTIONS
Tel: 0115 955 3103
1a Station House Crocus St
Nottingham NG3 1BQ
reflectionshealthclub.co.uk







August 7th & 15th
September 4th & 19th
October 2nd & 17th
November 6th & 21st

first Thursday of the month: 2pm - 9pm third Friday of the month: 5pm - 8pm



you do not have to be from Walsali to take advantage of this service



Walsall HIV Team 07963 124 445 mornscolin@walsall gov.uk ~ melsmore@walsall gov.uk Walsall Centre for Sexual Health (GUM) 01922 63 33 41



ACCOUNTANTS & LEGAL

PHILIP

Chartered Certified Accountant

- Accountancy
- Taxation
- Management consultancy services,
 Free initial consultation.

01527 67861 e philip.rolle@sky.com

BRADIN TRUBSHAW SOLICITORS

EXPERT LEGAL ADVICE FOR WALSALL AND THE WEST MIDLANDS

Sometimes the only straight thing you need in life is advice

> 36 Lichfield Street, Walsall West Midlands

Tel: 01922 612444













DARE 2 BARE

Every Wednesday All Day FREE BUFFET AT 7PM



DAZZLE

Every Friday All Day

New Changing Facilities/Clothes & Make-Up Now Provided Discounts on entry price for those who arrived already dressed. FREE BUFFET last Friday of the Month.

.....................

....................

3rd Saturday Of The Month

Bears Discount for Bear Club Members FREE BUFFET at 4,30pm

LUM NIGHT

1st Saturday Of The Month

Fetish Wear from 7pm Onwards Discount on entry for those dressed in Fetish Gear



Every Saturday from 9pm Chill out Atmosphere & Relaxed Night

FREE BUFFET & BUBBLY

NEW DAILY DISCOUNT MEALS

from £1.50

plus our usual full menu

SPECIAL OFFERS

£10 ENTRANCE

Mon, Tues & Thurs from 6pm Friday & Saturday from 9pm

FACILITIES INCLUDE...

- Swimming Pool (Darlaston only)
- Steam Rooms
 Sauna
 Grotto
- Video Lounges Jacuzzis
- Rooftop Area Conservatory
- Rest Rooms
 Café bar

DARLASTON

Willenhall Road **Darlaston, West Midlands** WS10 8JG tel: 0121 568 6126 email: darlaston@gay-sauna.com

LUTON

23 Crawley Road Luton, Bedfordshire LUI THX tel: 01582 487701 email: luton@gay-sauna.com

NEWPORT

24 Church Street **Newport Gwent** NP20 2BY tel: 01633 221172 email: newport@gay-sauna.com HEALTH CLUBS

OPEN 365 DAYS A YEAR TILL LATE | | ALL NIGHT FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS



Is it still rude to stare?

I was brought up being told that we shouldn't stare at people who look a bit different. A confusing message, because aren't those precisely the people you need to have a really, really good look at?

It wasn't just a matter of politeness; apparently, staring too hard can really fire up a 'different' person, and they can turn on you at a moment's notice. It's about self-preservation.

But that seems to be going out of the window.

I am apparently the only person in the universe who doesn't have a tattoo. Everyone has one. I blame the Beckhams. It used to be just ye olde sailors who would stab themselves in the skin and pour ink onto it in a nice skull-and-cross bows shape, simply because there was nothing else to do on ye long sea voyages, Then David Beckham had a go, Suddenly, bare skin has become so 'old hat' that not even a decent tan gets people going anymore. If only those sailors had had Sky TV, things would be very different now.

In a local pub recently, a woman turned up (conveniently wearing a backless dress) with a large (probably lifesize) tattoo of a wolf's head. The said wolf had an arrow in its mouth, drawn so it looked like it had pushed through the skin of her back and was about to launch out of her body and onto the bar. It was so lifelike that I could smell the

wolf breath in the air. From the front, I hasten to add, she looked like a librarian (and probably smelled like one too), Now if that sort of onbody artwork isn't an invitation to stare. I don't know what is.

And then there was a bloke with paragraphs of text down his arm and on his hand. It wasn't easy to read (due to an unfortunate combination of skin-wrinkling and hair growth), so I had to have a really good look. The only thing I could make out was something along the lines of 'a life isn't lived unless you live it' which seems a bit obvious, really.

Surely it would be rude not to stare when people have gone to such great trouble to adorn themselves with wolf heads and words of wisdom. It would be like not going into an art gallery, even though they'd put the best pictures on the wall Or not opening a book of trite sayings, even though it was right in front of you, So I'm happily staring and enjoying my new, impolite freedom,

The only problem is, I can feel the eyes of a hundred tattooed people always upon me - staring intently, trying to see where my tattoos are...



ON THE BALL with Steve Ball

Not in front of the children

Blue Peter has introduced its new guide dog puppy to viewers, Iggy, a labrador golden retriever cross, made her first appearance on the programme on 19 June.

The Blue Peter team will follow the two-month-old through every stage of her training.

This news story brought back many happy memories of my own childhood TV viewing, Blue Peter was the first programme I remember seeing on our brand new black-and-white television set. Peter Purvis, Valerie Singleton and John Noakes were like everyone's favourite aunt and uncle as they climbed Nelson's Column, taught me how to make desk tidies out of loo rolls, and introduced us to Petra, the first Blue Peter dog. When Petra died, there was what amounted to the children's TV version of national mourning.

Fast-forward a couple of decades to 1984, when Michael Sundin, a gay actor and trampolinist, presented his first Blue Peter. But after 77 episodes, the editors and production team decided not to renew Sundin's contract because they felt he had little rapport with the viewers. It was also claimed that some parents and children had complained about his effeminacy, Reports of

his gay exploits in the tabloid press were also rumoured to have been a factor. Michael died of an Aids-related illness In 1989, yet the programme that gave so much coverage to the death of the Blue Peter dog failed to make any mention of Michael's passing on air.

A lot has changed in the 25 years since his death. I do hope that, in 2014, children's TV production teams would mark the passing of a programme presenter just as much as the death of a Blue Peter dog.





Here we take some of our favourite (and often controversial) comments uotes of the month... Here we take some of our favourite (and often controversial) comme from www.midlandszone.co.uk, Facebook page and Twitter feed...



Complaints over John Barrowman's Commonwealth Kiss

The Glasgow Kiss re-invented! Respect to John Barrowman for sending out such a positive message to the 42 Governments of Commonwealth nations where being gay is still illegal. In a world where images of killing and violence pass unremarked upon, it still amazes me that a simple kiss can attract such irrational anger and hostility. John Martin (via Facebook)

Yet again the mindless, bigoted morons are out to play. We all know there'll be some sort of a backlash, but in the end the LGBT community wins

hands-down. We always have been, and always will be, better than those who seek to destroy us. Well done, Mr Barrowman. You made me proud to be who I am!

Aunty Tilly (via Facebook)

All of these haters should think before they open their mouths. What if their child was born gay their hatred could drive them to suicide! They should be ashamed of the suffering they inflict on others! Ashamed! Chris Fox (via Facebook)





Android

BIRMINGHAM 3RD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH 10PM - 2:30AM THE CORE, 135 SHERLOCK ST, B5 6NB GLASGOW 1ST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH 10:30PM - 3AM THE ARCHES, 30 MIDLAND ST, G2 8DL LONDON WEDNESDAYS & SATURDAYS SATURDAYS 10PM - 6AM WEDNESDAYS 9PM - 3AM PULSE, NO.1 INVICTA PLAZA, SOUTH BANK, SE1 9UF



4 ROOMS

HOUSE / BASS / GARAGE / DRUM AND BASS / SPEED GARAGE / CLASSICS

OPEN TILL 8AM

SPECIAL GUEST

GRANT NELSON

INCLUDING
DANNY BOND / BIG ANG / WAYNE H
LISA SHARRED /JOE CAMPBELL
BECKY G / PLUS MORE